English 102: Argumentation Essay Assignment & Rubric Assignment Focus on an issue that impacts a community to which you belong (school, family, church, sports team, student organization etc.); then, propose a course of action or a change of attitude that can address the issue and create a positive outcome. This essay is worth 150 points. In your argument, address the following: • Facts: What happened? Why is the issue important? Using what you know about narrative and illustration, provide factual information about the issue and explain its relevance to the community of your choice. • Definition: What exactly is the issue? To what category does it belong? In what ways is it similar or different from other issues in the same category? Using what you know about creating a definition, provide a framework for understanding the issue. • Quality: Is it a good thing or a bad thing? Using what you know about comparison and contrast, articulate two divergent perspectives on the issue and take a side. • Change: What should be done? Based on the perspective you support, propose a specific change. Using what you know about cause and effect, explain why that change will lead to positive outcomes while lack of change will lead to negative outcomes. Research This essay requires research. In addition to your own experience, you must have support from 5-6 sources from the UMES academic databases (at least 3) or other sources identified as credible by your instructor. Your instructor will conduct his/her own library orientation using the projection computer. Your sources must be cited in correct MLA format. Length 1,000-1,200 words (This is approximately 4-5 word-processed, double-spaced pages.) Format Your paper must in correct MLA format (9 th edition) with the standard MLA heading. Use the Word Count tool to determine the number of words. At the end of your paper, skip a line and then type the following: Word count: xxx words Submission You MUST submit your essay electronically in the Canvas Assignment as a Microsoft Word file. Argumentation Essay Assignment Steps Writing an argumentation essay is a process that takes time and planning. You BUILD an argumentation essay; you don’t just sit down and write it. 1. Develop a topic and formulate a draft thesis. 2. Use the library’s databases and/or books and periodicals (but not internet sources) to research the topic and compile a list of reference sources. 3. Compile a bibliography of at least five sources. The bibliography must conform to MLA guidelines. 4. Write first draft of essay. 5. Have your essay critiqued at the Writing Center. 6. Submit the final draft of essay