alignment — Cohesion
between the focus of an inquiry, the method of collecting
information, the process of analysis of the information, and the conclusions made to
increase understanding of that focus

argument — A claim or thesis that conveys a perspective developed through a line of
reasoning and supported by evidence

assumption — A belief regarded as true and often unstated

author — One who creates a work (e.g., article; research study; foundational, literary, or
philosophical text; speech, broadcast, or personal account; artistic work or performance)
that conveys a perspective and can be examined

bias — A personal opinion, belief, or value that may influence one’s judgment,
perspective, or claim [Note: bias may be stated or unstated]

claim — A statement made about an issue that asserts a perspective

coding — A method for reducing data sets into categories or numbers for the purpose of
analyzing emerging themes, patterns, or trends

commentary — Discussion and analysis of evidence in relation to the claim that may
identify patterns, describe trends, and/or explain relationships

complex issue — Issue involving many facets or perspectives that must be understood in
order to address it

concession — Acknowledgment and acceptance of an opposing or different view

conclusion — Understanding resulting from analysis of evidence

context — The intent, audience, purpose, bias, situatedness, and/or background (larger
environment) of a source or reference

conventions — The stylistic features of writing (e.g., grammar, usage, mechanics)

counterargument — An opposing perspective, idea, or theory supported by evidence

credibility — The degree to which a source is believable and trustworthy [see also,
reliability]

cross-curricular — Goes beyond the traditional boundary of a single content area or
discipline
deductive — A type of reasoning that constructs general propositions that are supported with evidence or cases

evidence — Information (e.g., data, quotations, excerpts from texts) used as proof to support a claim or thesis

fallacy — Evidence or reasoning that is false or in error

feasible — Able to be accomplished within the time, resources, and processes available

implication — A possible future effect or result

inductive — A type of reasoning that presents cases or evidence that lead to a logical conclusion

inquiry — A process for seeking truth, information, or knowledge through a study, research investigation, or artistic endeavor/work

interdisciplinary — Involving two or more areas of knowledge

lens — Filter through which an issue or topic is considered or examined

limitation — A boundary or point at which an argument or generalization is no longer valid

line of reasoning — Arrangement of claims and evidence that leads to a conclusion [the way the argument is organized to deliver on its purpose]

literature — The foundational and current texts of a field or discipline of study

material culture — Physical objects, resources, and spaces that people use to define their culture

perspective — A point of view conveyed through an argument

plagiarism — Failure to acknowledge, attribute, and/or cite any ideas or evidence taken from another source

point of view — A position or standpoint on a topic or issue

primary research — The planning and implementation of an inquiry to gather firsthand data or information pertaining to a topic of interest

primary source — An original source of information about a topic (e.g., study, artifact, data set, interview, article)
qualification — A condition or exception

qualitative — Having to do with text, narrative, or descriptions

quantitative — Having to do with numbers, amounts, or quantities

rebuttal — Contradicting an opposing perspective by providing alternate, more convincing evidence

refutation — Disproving an opposing perspective by providing counterclaims or counterevidence

reliability — The extent to which something can be trusted to be accurate

resolution — The act of solving a problem or dispute [Bear in mind that there may be multiple resolutions to a problem. You are seeking the most feasible resolution in the context of the problem. Context is everything.]

secondary research — The process of gathering data or information about a topic of interest from previously published sources

secondary source — A commentary about one or more primary sources that provides additional insight, opinions, and/or interpretation about the primary source data, study, or artifacts

solution — A means of answering a question or addressing a problem or issue

text — Something composed (e.g., articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; artistic works and performances) that conveys a perspective and can be examined

thesis — A claim or position on an issue or topic put forward and supported by evidence

tone — The way in which an author expresses an attitude about his or her topic or subject through rhetorical choices

triangulation — Implementing more than one research method and/or gathering more than one type of data set to strengthen the depth of understanding and validity of the findings pertaining to a phenomenon or observation

validity (argument) — The extent to which an argument or claim is logical

validity (research) — The extent to which conclusions of an inquiry accurately address the variables to be measured or align with the authenticity of the observations made
**vocal variety** — Changing vocal characteristics (e.g., pitch, volume, speed) in order to emphasize ideas, convey emotion or opinion, or achieve other specific purposes

**workshopping** — Presenting scholarly works to peers for feedback to inform or guide revisions