# Critical Conversation Information Sheet

## Purpose:

## The purpose of this assignment is to see how Brandeis faculty model argumentation and use evidence so that you can apply some of these methods to your research essay.

## Skills:

## This assignment will help you practice the following skills that are essential to your school and professional life:

* Make a persuasive argument that is supported by evidence
* Acknowledge and refute counterarguments
* Tailor your work to the appropriate audience

## Knowledge:

This assignment will also help you to become familiar with the following content knowledge:

* The kinds of sources and research used in various discipline
* The way scholars in different disciplines use evidence
* The ways scholars engage in respectful discourse

## Assignment:

Watch the Critical Conversation on [insert topic, date, time, and location]. Afterwards, write a one-page, double-spaced response to the Critical Conversation in which you answer the following questions: What techniques did the speakers use to convince you of their argument? What was effective? What was less effective? How did faculty from various perspectives (or disciplines) approach the topic differently? How did the speakers handle scholarly disagreements? How might you use some of the argumentation techniques in your own writing, specifically your research paper?

**Due on LATTE by 11:55 PM on [insert date]**

## Tasks:

For this assignment you will need to complete the following tasks:

* Attend or watch the Critical Conversation
* Write a reflection letter that synthesizes your observations
* Discuss your findings in class