PHRASES FOR INTRODUCING SOURCES AND QUOTATIONS

Capturing Authorial Action through Summaries or Paraphrasing

These phrases alert your reader that you as a writer are about to summarize or paraphrase another idea established by an authority on a chosen topic. Note that while some of these are quite neutral, others allow you to imply things about the quote's tone, similarity, contrast, and/or significance in relation to other sources or to your larger argument.

Author X…

- *acknowledges that* [blank].
- *agrees that* [blank].
- *argues that* [blank].
- *believes that* [blank].
- *celebrates the fact that* [blank].
- *claims that* [blank].
- *complains that* [blank].
- *concedes that* [blank].
- *demonstrates that* [blank].
- *deplores the tendency to* [blank].
- *denies/does not deny that* [blank].

- *emphasizes that* [blank].
- *insists that* [blank].
- *maintains that* [blank].
- *observes that* [blank].
- *opines that* [blank].
- *questions whether* [blank].
- *refutes the claim that* [blank].
- *reminds us that* [blank].
- *reports that* [blank].
- *suggests that* [blank].
- *urges us to* [blank].

Introducing Quotations

These phrases alert your reader that you are about to quote directly from another source. As with the phrases above, some are quite neutral, while others allow you to imply things about the quote's tone, similarity, contrast, and/or significance in relation to other sources or to your larger argument.

- *X states, "*[blank]*."*
- *As X puts it, "*[blank]*."*
- *According to X, "*[blank]*."*
- *X writes, "*[blank]*."*
- *In her book/essay* [blank]*, X maintains that "*[blank]*."*

- *Writing in the journal* [blank]*, X complains that "*[blank]*."*
- *In X's view, "*[blank]*."*
- *X agrees when she writes, "*[blank]*."*
- *X disagrees when he writes, "*[blank]*."*
- *X complicates matters further when they write, "*[blank]*."*

Explaining Quotations

Remember that every paragraph must provide clarification, interpretation, or necessary analysis of a supplied quotation or paraphrase; this allows you to explain not only the quote itself, but how it fits into your larger argument. The phrases listed here are just some of the ways in which you can alert your reader that you are about to rephrase, clarify, expand, and otherwise analyze the source you have previously introduced.

- *Basically/Essentially, X is saying* [blank]*.*
- *In other words, X believes* [blank]*.*
- *In making this comment, X urges us to* [blank]*.*
- *X is corroborating the idea that* [blank]*.*
- *X's point is that* [blank]*.*
- *The core/gist/meaning/significance of X's argument is that* [blank]*.*

And of course, remember that all outside sources must be cited correctly! For more information on how to effectively and accurately incorporate outside sources into your writing, please refer to the handout on "Working with Quotations."