**Pittman/Academic Writing**

**Adapted from The Academic Writer by Lisa Ede, 4th edition**

**GUIDELINES FOR ANALYZING A TEXT**

1. **What is the major claim or thesis of this text?**

* **Is it implicitly (you must read between the lines) or explicitly stated?**

1. **What interests or values may have caused the writer to develop this thesis?**

* **It may be helpful to find info on this writer from other sources as well as to look for clues in the document you are reading.**

1. **What values and beliefs about the subject do you bring to your reading of this text?**

* **How might they affect your response to the writer’s argument?**

1. **What kinds of evidence does the writer present?**

* **Is the evidence used logically and fairly?**
* **Is the evidence convincing?**
* **Has the writer failed to consider any significant evidence?**
* **Does the writer address counter-claims?**

1. **What role, if any, do images and graphics play?**
2. **Does the writer try to appeal to your emotions, and if so, is it inappropriately manipulative?**
3. **How does the writer establish their credibility?**