

the ScholarShape Archives

TERMS OF SERVICE

(Version: March 2024)

Hello, Future ScholarShaper!

Thank you for your interest in accessing the ScholarShape Archives. Below are the ScholarShape Terms of Service, which must be read and accepted before accessing the Archives. Settle in for a long, cozy read, as the Terms of Service are quite detailed in hopes of laying a solid foundation for our relationship for years to come!

1. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Genius is everywhere! ScholarShape Archives membership is open to people of all educational backgrounds, career fields, and research interests. The materials have been developed around the needs of, and tested on, Ph.D.-holding scholars creating research publications in a range of disciplines. So, this population may be most likely to resonate with the resources. However, no matter your educational background, career goals, or research interests, you are welcome to try out ScholarShape.

Also, it should go without saying, yet is worth spelling out, that the ScholarShape Archives are open to people of all genders, racial backgrounds, ability, socioeconomic status, etc.— anyone and everyone who resonates with the description of the Archives as provided on the ScholarShape website.

Great care is taken to make the ScholarShape resources as inclusive and accessible as possible, and we welcome any and all feedback that can help us keep improving on how we live out these values.

2. PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS

With one flat fee of **U.S. \$600**, or three payments of **U.S. \$200** (paid standalone or as part of a service package purchase), you become a ScholarShape Member and receive lifetime digital access to the ScholarShape Archives.

After you've purchased access, you have 14 days to request a refund, no questions asked. Refunds are given via the same payment method used to make the purchase. Once the refund period has passed, refunds are not available.

3. ACCESSING THE ARCHIVES

You can access the Archives via your preferred web browser through any internet-connected device. All content layouts and navigation were designed and tested with the laptop, tablet, and smart phone user in mind. The test devices were a MacBook Pro, an iPad 6 Mini, and an iPhone 14 Pro.

For an app-like experience on your phone or tablet, you can save a bookmark/ shortcut to the Archives home page on your device's Home Screen.

For all audio and video content, transcripts are provided so materials can be used in quiet settings. Some of the content is currently in text-only format, with the goal of rolling out audio (read-aloud) versions of these as well in 2023.

When you purchase a ScholarShape Membership, you are prompted to create your own unique sign-in (username and password), which you then use to access the Archives through any computer, tablet, or mobile device.

Be sure to log out if you use a device other than your own to access the Archives, as sharing your log-in is a violation of the Terms of Service and may result in cancellation of your membership (see "Intellectual Property" below).

Your log-in is valid for as long as the ScholarShape Archives exist at this domain, which there is every hope and intention will be for years to come.

While we make every effort to ensure uninterrupted access to the ScholarShape Archives 24/7/365 (and 366 on leap years!), brief service interruptions may periodically occur in the event of server issues, system upgrades, etc. Rest assured, we will do everything in our power to ensure the Archives are here for you whenever you need them!

If you run into any complications accessing materials in the Archives, or have feedback on improving accessibility or navigability, please contact the Help Desk via the link in the navigation bar.

4. HELP DESK

Should any questions arise as you use the Archives materials, you can contact the Help Desk, which is accessible inside the Archives via the navigation bar. The Help Desk is here to help you navigate, understand, interpret, and apply the resources, and to receive your feedback on how to continue improving Member experience!

Please note that support via the Help Desk is not a substitute for one-on-one coaching or editing services, and it is unable to provide feedback on drafts of your writing or intricate scenarios specific to you. Please allow 3-5 business days' response time.

5. BOUNDARIES AROUND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The ScholarShape Archives contain a body of work that has been laboriously developed over many years, yet will undergo still more development before culminating in a collection of published books in various genres. When you join the ScholarShape Archives, you are being invited into an evolving record and repository of a body of work still in the process of emergence, whose book forms will (hopefully) appear in the coming years. And you're being invited to see how the shape of this work can inform the emergence of your own.

In differentiating ScholarShape's intellectual property from your own, it's important to remember that, just like a book you might read or a presentation you might attend, each of the materials in the Archives is in fixed form and as such is protected from copyright infringement by copyright law, and protected from plagiarism by the norms of academic integrity. Each resource in the Archives can be quoted and cited in its current form, even as its author (Margy) plans to revise and build on the Archives contents in years to come.

Because at this stage, the ScholarShape materials exist as a sort of curriculum behind a paywall, rather than as books in a library, additional clarification is helpful regarding what uses of the ScholarShape materials are permitted and what uses are prohibited.

IMPORTANT: Please read carefully the sections on Permitted and Prohibited Uses of ScholarShape materials, particularly the underlined portions. If you have any questions, please contact us, and we will be happy to clarify!

5a. Permitted Uses

As a ScholarShape Member, you are explicitly permitted and encouraged to access, engage with, discuss, and cite ScholarShape's intellectual property within the contours described here in Section 5(a).

Access: One ScholarShape Membership (U.S. \$600) covers one person's lifetime access to the ScholarShape Archives. As a Member, you may enter the Archives at any time to watch the videos, listen to the audio, read the text, and view the images. You have this right for as long as the Archives exist at this domain, which will hopefully be for many years to come.

Engagement: As a ScholarShape Member, you are encouraged to use the resources to structure your own thinking and writing. Complete the exercises, design your manuscripts according to the patterns elucidated, and absorb the vocabulary into your own ways of talking about and practicing scholarly work.

Collaboration. As a ScholarShape Member, you are permitted and encouraged to use the ScholarShape materials in collaboration with other ScholarShape Members where no party is paying another for services. To give two examples, the materials may be used to structure conversations and feedback exchanges among (i) unpaid peer support groups where all participants are ScholarShape Members, and (ii) within writing partnerships where both partners are ScholarShape Members.

Citation: As you would with any other source, you may find yourself discussing, quoting, paraphrasing, or otherwise building your own work by drawing on the Archives contents. Should you do so, be sure to credit your source as Margy Thomas, creator of ScholarShape. The practice of citation – whether citing a book, article, presentation, private correspondence, ScholarShape resource, or any other fixed expression – enables you to credit sources of ideas, vocabulary, organizational structures, syntheses, and where applicable, exact phrasings and styles of expression.

Indirect citation is appropriate when you are summarizing or paraphrasing someone else's idea, drawing on their synthesis, or using their organizational structure. Direct quotation is appropriate when you are borrowing exact phrasings, forms of expressions, or vocabulary / terminology / neologisms. When directly quoting others' work, remember to include quotation marks and precise source location information.

If you haven't recently, you may wish to familiarize yourself with the important differences between *fair use* (which is encouraged!) and *plagiarism and copyright infringement*, which, of course, we all want to avoid not only due to professional consequences, but for the sake of our consciences and self-respect.

As you engage in conscientious citation, it is good practice to clarify for your reader as precisely as you can where the line is between your source material, and your own claim/contribution relative to that source material.

If you wish to cite ScholarShape in work that you intend to publish, please contact the Help Desk to receive written permission and citation information.

5b. Prohibited Uses

Your use of ScholarShape materials is permitted within specific boundaries. Constraints around your use are delineated below.

No sharing of access to the Archives. Your Membership covers **only** your access to the ScholarShape Archives materials and **not** the access of any other individuals. The Membership is non-transferable and does **not** include the right to share the access or login information with anyone else.

No sharing or appropriation of materials. Membership does not include permission to broadcast, record, duplicate, download, reproduce, publicly display, or create derivative works from any of the ScholarShape Archives contents.

No use of materials in third-party services for non-Members. You may **not** use the ScholarShape materials as a structure for providing client services (e.g., as a writing coach, editor, consultant, etc) to non-Members, or as a course or workshop material in teaching students or other individuals who are non-Members. In other words, your Membership is for your own personal and professional development and for support in creating your own work. The ScholarShape materials are not to be used as a structure for providing paid work (client services, teaching, workshops, etc.) to third parties. Certain exceptions may be made if the clients/students with whom you are working are also ScholarShape Members; if you would like to discuss such a potential arrangement, please contact ScholarShape (Margy Thomas).

As noted in (5a), you are welcome to use the materials in collaborative settings such as free peer support groups in which all parties are ScholarShape Members, as long as no party is paying another for services.

5c. Summary, Remedies, and Rationale

In summary, all materials in the ScholarShape Archives are the original work of Margy Thomas, Ph.D., and are protected by both copyright law and academic norms prohibiting plagiarism. Unauthorized use of ScholarShape's intellectual property is a violation of these Terms of Service and, as such, may result in cancellation of your Membership without a refund and/or a lifetime ban from the Archives. Please note, as well, that in the event of copyright infringement and/or unauthorized use, legal remedies may be pursued in order to protect the integrity and sustainability of the ScholarShape project.

Hopefully it is clear from this document as a whole why these boundaries around Member use of the ScholarShape Archives are important. With your support, and favorable winds, ScholarShape can still be here to serve the scholarly community many years from now!

(Note: None of the statements anywhere in these Terms of Service are to be construed as legal advice. You are encouraged to do your own research and/ or consult with relevant experts on any area where you may find it beneficial.)

6. GROUNDS FOR LOSS OF ARCHIVES ACCESS

At ScholarShape's sole discretion, any Member who violates the Terms of Service, particularly the boundaries around intellectual property delineated in Section 5, may have their access to the Archives revoked without a refund.

Moreover, engaging in abusive, hostile, or threatening communication and/or behavior toward ScholarShape or its representatives may be considered a violation of the Terms of Service, resulting in loss of access to the Archives.

Here's hoping that this clause proves wholly unnecessary and that we all proceed together into a glorious future full of generous, respectful, goodwill-infused relationships with one another! 🙏

7. TAKING THE LONG VIEW & OPENING TO UNEXPECTED OUTCOMES

We here at ScholarShape believe wholeheartedly in the power of Story-Argument as an approach to life and scholarship. We have experienced first-hand, and witnessed in those we've worked with, how learning the Story-Argument model can transform for the better the ways that we think, write, ask questions, make meaning, and survive painful experiences with hope still intact.

That said, inviting in Story-Argument is not about implementing a proven system or engineering a specific result that is knowable in advance. Especially at first, the process of Story-Argument can feel messy and inscrutable, on the way to yielding its rich, lasting rewards.

Story-Argument may pry our long-cherished delusions out of our hands. It may call us into open conflict where previously we had tried to repress our truth for the sake of false peace. Story-Argument operates on its own time scale, which may be faster or slower than we find comfortable (albeit as it turns out, Story-Argument's timing tends to be better than what we could have planned).

Given all the complexity, variability, and unpredictability in how Story-Argument unfolds in a life, we at ScholarShape want to be very clear that we are not promising you particular results such as "you will write faster by next week" or "you will publish more by next year" or "fewer people will criticize your work." Story-Argument operates at a deeper level,

helping you establish a firm foundation beneath your self and work, and persist in the long, hard, beautiful labor of realizing who you are and what you are here to create. It's a process of hundreds or thousands of large and small steps years in the making.

And the future You who will emerge through Story-Argument is someone you'll be the first to imagine and witness: no one else can tell you in advance who that will be. The lifetime duration of your ScholarShape Membership is meant to accommodate the spacious, recursive, epochal nature of living with, in, and through Story-Argument.

8. UPDATES AND CLARIFICATIONS TO TERMS OF SERVICE

Updates and clarifications may periodically be made to these Terms of Service, in which case Members will be prompted to accept the updated Terms of Service for continued access to the Archives. As ScholarShape has been methodically and painstakingly developed over many years (since 2013), no major changes to core features are anticipated. Yet, it's helpful to be able to make tweaks as needed for the long-term flourishing of ScholarShape, and, by extension, for the scholars it is here to serve!

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours in Story-Argument,

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