THE DEWC 5 STEP GUIDE TO INCORPORATING QUOTATIONS

1. DECIDE WHAT (IF ANYTHING) YOU NEED TO QUOTE.
   Can you paraphrase instead? What is the most important part of the quotation?
   It's usually best to keep quotes as brief as possible so your own voice can shine in your paper.

2. INTRODUCE YOUR QUOTE.
   Explain as clearly as you can how this quote fits into your argument. Does the author "support," "disagree with," "raise questions about," or "elaborate on" your argument?

3. CHECK YOUR VERBS.
   "Talks about," "discusses," "says," & "states" are weak verbs. Try verbs like "explains," "argues," or "disagrees."

4. PROVIDE A TAKEAWAY.
   Use the sentence following the quote to segue back to your paper by explaining why the quote matters. You might summarize the quote, or explain its significance, or both.

5. DON'T FORGET:
   Cite your sources!