ENGL 102  
Instructor: Ms. Patty Hanahoe-Dosch  
Essay One

**Length:** *At least three full pages* though some of you will need to write more than this. For the ambitious among you: please don't go over six pages unless you have a really good reason for doing so, and you discuss it with me before turning it in. Your works cited list does not count as page three. That is page four. These must be three complete pages, not two and half or even two and three-quarters. If you have less than five paragraphs, the essay will fail for not meeting the definition of an essay I gave you in a PowerPoint video in the Week One learning module. You should have more than five paragraphs to develop this well.

**Note:** if your essay is less than three *full* pages (before the works cited list, which does not count as one of the three pages), you will earn an F for not meeting the parameters of the assignment. This must be with a normal 11 or 12 point font (Times New Roman or Arial) and normal margins.

Due date: See course calendar

**Objectives:**
Through the process of writing this essay (and all others in this course), we are trying to achieve the following:

1. Students will practice writing an organized, structured, college-level essay.
2. Students will learn how to construct a logical, convincing analysis and argument.
3. Students’ critical reading and analysis skills, as well as writing skills, will be developed and reinforced.
4. Students’ critical thinking and analytical skills will be developed and reinforced.
5. Students' use of argumentation and other rhetorical devices will be developed and reinforced.
6. Students' ability to use sources for information and to support their own ideas will be developed and reinforced.
7. Students' ability to cite sources will be developed and reinforced.

**Instructions:**

Write an organized, fully developed essay based on **ONE** of the following topics. (Yes, you must write about one of these topics.) You must have a thesis, of course, and support your points with specific examples from your experiences, if you have any, and quotes, paraphrases, or summaries from the article/essay you are analyzing. You must have at least one quote from it somewhere in your essay, but you will probably need more to support your points. Your thesis must be an argumentative/analysis one. You are writing an analysis paper. You must also use *at least* one other source (an article, not a book) *from the HACC library's databases* to support your points. You must cite those quotes, paraphrases or summaries correctly, using the MLA documentation style. Include, also, a copy of the article(s) from the database(s) that you quoted, paraphrased or summarized from as support in your paper. (Paste into the bottom
TOPICS

1. Read the essay "Executions Should be Televised" on pp. 80 - 82 of your textbook. In this essay, the authors argue that executions in the U.S. should be made public. If you disagree with them and think they should remain private in the manner they are currently done, then analyze their essay for weaknesses, and use those to show that their argument is weak and your points of why executions should not be made public are better. Note: if you don't agree with the death penalty, at all, then this topic is not for you. You are only arguing that executions should not be made public.

2. Read the essay, "Why the Pledge of Allegiance..." on pp. 82 - 86. Consider all the questions on pp. 86 - 87. Then write your essay in answer to #14. You are evaluating this essay. Your thesis would be what grade you would give it and perhaps a short summary of why. Use my rubric of general grading standards under "Important" in the Content section. Then go into the strengths and weaknesses of the argument. Note: you are not arguing the topic of the Pledge of Allegiance, but rather analyzing and evaluating the essay itself.

3. Read the following newspaper editorial, "We Have No Iran Policy." (An editorial is an opinion and argument written by one or more editors on the editorial/op-ed pages of a newspaper or other media.) Then argue why it is right or wrong, using the editorial's reasoning, points, and evidence to either support your own argument in support of its thesis or to show why the editorial's argument is weak. If you are arguing the author is right, you need to add your own arguments to it and show where/why the editorial's arguments are strong and make a good case. If you are arguing it is wrong, you need to add your arguments as to why it is wrong, as well as show why it is weak. You are both arguing the topic and evaluating the editorial's strengths and weaknesses.

4. Read the following opinion article/essay, "Opinion: The Case for Syrian Refugees." Then argue why it is right or wrong, using the article's reasoning, points, and evidence to either support your own argument in support of its thesis, or to show why the editorial's argument is weak. If you are arguing the author is right, you need to add your own arguments to it and show where/why the editorial's arguments are strong and make a good case. If you are arguing it is wrong, you need to add your arguments as to why it is wrong, as well as show why it is weak. You are both arguing the topic and evaluating the editorial's strengths and weaknesses.

Note: Wikipedia is not a valid academic resource! You may not use it! Actually, you may not use any Internet source for this paper other than the HACC library's databases (which are, technically, accessed through the Internet).
CHECKLIST

Do you have:

1. _______________ At least three FULL pages?

2. _______________ At least one article from the HACC library's databases to support your points?

3. _______________ At least one quote from the article/essay as well as paraphrases and/or summaries to support your points?

4. _______________ A copy of the article(s) from the database(s) that you quoted, paraphrased or summarized from as support in your paper?

5. _______________ An analysis/ argumentative thesis and paper based on one of the above topics?

6. _______________ A properly formatted works cited list and in-text citations for your sources, including the article/essay you are analyzing?

7. _______________ Did you follow directions??