
Major Paper Four

The Self in Society

HMXP 102, Section 014

Due: December 4th, 2008 at the beginning of your HMXP class meeting

Last Day to Submit Drafts: November 28th, 2008

Paper Length: 1,000 – 1,200 words (1,000 word minimum does *not* include quotations)

Required: A type-written, double-spaced essay the following structure:

Completed Cover Page (see attached)

Body of the paper Introductory paragraph concluded with thesis statement
Several paragraphs in which you present your argument

Conclusion (summary of major ideas from paper)

“Works Cited” page

You must submit a hard copy with an attached, signed cover sheet at the beginning of class on the due date. An electronic copy of the document must also be submitted to *Turnitin.com* before the class meeting on that due date. Please see course website for more information about Turnitin.

Topic: The last two major papers for this course will both be position papers about U.S. federally funded programs. For Major Paper #3, you took the “pro” position on an issue (i.e., U.S. taxpayer money should be used to support the program). For Major Paper #4, you will take the “anti” position for the exact same issue. I have put together a list of topics (see end of this document). Whatever topic you chose for Paper #3, please keep in mind that you will have to support both positions. The goal of each paper is to use well-supported arguments to convince the reader that your focus is correct, so be sure that your focus is both interesting and controversial.

Your introductory paragraph should introduce the reader to the topic (assume the reader knows nothing about it). The last sentence of your introductory statement *must* be a properly formatted thesis statement. See “thesis statement” handout for more information. Your concluding paragraph must be a summary of your argument and should include no new material.

Be aware that quotations will not count toward the minimum word count total of 1,200 words. Keep direct quotes down to at most 3-4 *short phrases*. I am interested in what *you* have to say, not how well you can copy other people’s writing.

You *must* refer at least three *published* works, including whatever readings in our HMXP 102 book (*The Human Experience*) you think are appropriate to your focus. One of those published works *must* be a reading from your HMXP readings. It does not have to be a reading we discussed in class.

A second published work will be the main website/document that describes the topic. They are all U.S. government programs, so this publication will be a federal website or document.

Your own personal experiences are also welcome as long as they are relevant to your topic and focus. If you want to include ideas brought up by other people in conversation (e.g., if you discussed a reading with your roommate or a professor), you must include the full name of the other person and

the date the conversation occurred (or at least a relative idea of when it happened, e.g., last week, when you were in second grade, etc.). These do not count as citations and should not be listed on your "Works Cited" page.

All sources must be cited properly using MLA (please see your Prentice Hall Grammar Guide). The readings in the GNED 102 book are chapters in an anthology, and should be cited as such. Every paper **MUST** have a "Works Cited" section in which full bibliographical information about all work referred to in the paper are listed. Be sure to include the date you retrieved information from websites. Any paper submitted without a complete works cited section and proper citations in the body of the paper will be assigned a grade of zero. No exceptions!

Topic List (choose *one*)

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)

DARPA is a HUGE agency, so choose one program from one of the 5 divisions listed here:
http://www.darpa.mil/body/off_programs.html

NASA return to the Moon / Mission to Mars

<http://www.nasa.gov/directorates/esmd/home/index.html>

Head Start

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/>

No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.ihtml>

Title IX

<http://www.dol.gov/oasam/regs/statutes/titleIX.htm>

National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS)

<http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/nics/index.htm>

Federal Death Penalty

The U.S. federal court system's website is hard to navigate, so feel free to use the following website from the Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) for basic statistical and links to other information, but be aware of their anti-death penalty bias:

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/federal-death-penalty>

Major League Baseball's Antitrust Exemption

This is a summary page with links to useful legislative documents. Do not cite the website when citing the federal bills, which are simply copied onto the website:

<http://www.baseball1.com/bb-data/congress/>

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/Policy/nafta/nafta.asp>

Major Paper Four Cover Sheet

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Student Name (please print): _____

Grading Rubric - Based on the General Education Writing Competency Rubric

5	Exceptional essay that substantially exceeds requirements. Insightful, logically supported thesis and focus. Original and completely developed ideas. Carefully organized so that all parts support thesis statement. Sentence structure varied with clear flow from sentence to sentence. Essentially free of mechanical errors, carefully edited.
4	Very good essay that exceeds requirements. Thesis and focus are clear, but may not be original or fully supported. Solid ideas but less carefully developed than above. Organization good, but with some weakness(es). Sentence structure somewhat varied but with uneven flow from sentence to sentence. Few mechanical errors, carefully edited.
3	Essay meets requirements. Thesis and focus predictable and/or general and not always supported. Ideas appropriate to subject matter, but lack complex development and/or specificity. Organization present but not fully developed throughout essay. Transitions between sentences and paragraphs lacking. Little variety in sentence structure which is somewhat simplistic and relies on clichés. Errors do not significantly interfere with readability, some evidence of editing.
2	Essay does not meet requirements. Vague thesis and focus. Supporting ideas vague, underdeveloped or inappropriate. Organization inappropriate and/or inconsistent, excessively repetitive. Little variety in sentence structure, lacking transitions. Errors interfere with readability and indicate unfamiliarity with some aspects of Standard English.
1	Essay does not meet requirements. Thesis and focus either missing or contradictory, no evidence that the thesis and focus have been thought through. Supporting ideas underdeveloped, simplistic or cryptic. Reliance on generalizations which may or may not be on topic, factual errors and faulty assumptions. Organization absent. Superficial or stereotypical language used, spoken rather than written language used. Mechanically incompetent.
0	Any of the above essays <i>will</i> be assigned a grade of "zero" if there is not sufficient documentation of source material!

Read and sign the following statement I (the student submitting this assignment for grading) have read all available material about plagiarism including in the *Winthrop University Student Handbook* and the *Prentice Hall Reference Guide*, and I affirm by my signature that all writing in this essay is my own. I affirm that I have not plagiarized any part from any other source (including, but not limited to, the internet, textbooks and other written material, the work of other students, and lecture notes for this or any other course). I affirm that I have not submitted this work for grading in other course at Winthrop University or any other school.

Signature _____ Date _____