IMPORTANT DATES

# 9/21-9/25: Meet with an instructor/tutor during your WRC lab to discuss a specific question about your essay.

# 9/23 (MW) or 9/24 (TR): Come to class with a typed and printed thesis for the Essay 1 Thesis Workshop. Incomplete drafts will result in a 5% reduction of your final grade on this essay. If you have never used Turnitin.com before, we will do a demo in class before the workshop.

# 9/28 (MW) or 9/29 (TR): Bring two copies of a complete, typed draft to class for a Peer Review Workshop.

# 9/30 (MW) or 10/1 (TR): Final Draft due at the beginning of class

A complete essay packet will include: your initial thesis, first draft, peer review, your final draft, and an electronic copy submitted to Turnitin.com by 11:59 pm on the due date. Failure to submit a complete packet will result in a 5% reduction off your final grade on this essay.

FOR THIS ESSAY, CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PROMPTS:

A. Read “Colleges Prepare People for Life” by Freeman Hrabowski and “Give Colleges More Credit” by Barry Glassner and Morton Shapiro. Using your skills in rhetorical analysis, write an essay in which you argue which article is more persuasive. While this work necessarily involves some comparison and/or contrast, the main focus of your written analysis should be EITHER Hrabowski’s OR Glassner and Shapiro’s article. Assume that your audience is familiar with both, and make an argument that details what makes one article more persuasive than the other.

B. Read Sanford J. Ungar’s “The New Liberal Arts” and Charles Murray’s “Are Too Many People Going to College?” Using your skills in rhetorical analysis, write an essay in which you argue which article is more persuasive. While this work necessarily involves some comparison and/or contrast, the main focus of your written analysis should be EITHER Ungar’s OR Murray’s article. Assume that your audience is familiar with both, and make an argument that details what makes one article more persuasive than the other.

REQUIREMENTS

# This essay needs to be a minimum of 1250 words (about 4 full pages). Any words on your Works Cited page do not count. Make sure to list the word count at the end of your essay. If an essay does not meet this minimum requirement, it will earn a 0.

# Refer to the Essay Grading Rubric included in your syllabus as you plan and write this essay. To earn a passing grade, a C, your essay must meet the minimum standards for a competent college-level essay. Essays that exceed the minimum qualifications will earn higher grades.

# As indicated in the prompts, you must use at least two sources from the unit on education in They Say/I Say. To help support the points you make in the body of your essay, you may also choose to bring in other sources from this unit (in order to, for instance, effectively evaluate the logos of an author).

# To prove your thesis, you will have to use your arsenal of evidence – summaries, quotes, and paraphrases, all meticulously and correctly cited.

# Write in the third person point of view (they/students/educators, etc.).

# Make consistent use of the They Say/I Say templates from Chapters 1-3. When introducing quotes, for example, make use of the list of verbs from on p. 39-40 and the templates on p. 46-47.

# MLA format, in-text citations, and a properly formatted Works Cited page are required.

# Don’t forget to list the word count at the end of the essay.
Smith 1

Will Smith
Professor Andres
English 1A MW
16 September 2015

How My Life Got Turned Upside Down

Now, this is a story all about how my life got flipped – turned upside down. And I’d like to take a minute – just sit right there – I’ll tell you how I became the prince of a town called Bel Air.

In West Philadelphia, born and raised, on the playground is where I spent most of my days, chilling out, maxing, relaxing, all cool, and shooting some b-ball outside of the school. Then, a couple of guys who were up to no good started making trouble in my neighborhood. I got in one little fight and my mom got scared. She said, “You’re moving with your auntie and uncle in Bel Air.”

Word Count: 128

• Use Times New Roman, size 12 font.
• Use 1” margins all around.
• Put your last name and the page number, aligned right, in the top header. Make sure the font matches.
• Use even double spacing throughout. Don’t skip extra lines before or after the title, and don’t skip extra lines between paragraphs.
• Note how the date is written. MLA puts the day before the month, even in Works Cited pages. No comma is needed.
• Your original title (not the name of the essay or article that you’re writing about) should be in the same font, centered. It is not bold, underlined, or italicized.
• List the word count at the end of your essay. Your separate Works Cited page should follow.