

Essay Plan

Assignment Overview:

The essay plan assignment is meant to help you start drafting your essay and prepare you to write a full rough draft in the next learning unit. Your essay plan should include the following:

1. a summary of the professional text you'll be writing about (See Summary and Response Assignment Sheet in LU3.)
2. a working thesis statement,
3. a list of your main points,
4. a list of sub-points under each main point (optional).

Of course, this is a preliminary draft of your summary and basic outline and may be changed as you continue to develop the essay next week. However, you need to take the assignment seriously so that you'll be reading for the next learning unit. Please be sure you've completed all of the other assigned activities before beginning this assignment.

Instructions:

1. Using the "Guidelines for Writing a Summary" and the sample student summary paragraph (from the assigned "Summarize to Demonstrate Your Understanding" reading in *Rules for Writers*) as a model, write a fully-developed summary of the professional essay to which you're responding. Your summary should be about six to ten sentences, but no more than half to three-fourths a page long.
2. Using the "Developing a Thesis" handout (from Learning Unit 3) as a guide, write a working thesis statement for your essay. If possible at this point in the writing process, include a concession in the thesis.
3. Using the "Developing Main Points" handout (from Learning Unit 3) as a guide, write three to four main points to support your thesis statement. Remember that you'll likely need a main point allowing you to make concessions, and you'll need at least two main points to support your major argument.
4. If you would like, under each of your main points you may include a brief list of your sub-points. (This is not required).
5. After you've typed your essay plan, either upload or copy and paste it to the drop box. Remember to upload it in a format I can access (.doc, .docx, or .rtf).