

Self-Assessment Worksheet

With the completion of each essay exam, we will take some time to reflect on our writing and how it's evolving over the course of the semester. This will also help ensure that you're understanding the feedback you're receiving on your writing and using it to improve your academic writing on subsequent coursework.

Your thoughtful and thorough completion of this self-assessment will help demonstrate your ability to absorb feedback and put it into action.

You should plan to devote sufficient time to complete this self-assessment with honesty and thoroughness about the challenges you're facing in your writing and the strengths you see emerging.

In addition to answering these questions, you will also be required to complete the rubric for your Exam 1 essays and upload it. I will then complete the rubric as well, and then we'll discuss the results.

1. Please share a bit about other experiences you've had with academic writing prior to enrolling in this course -- either in other courses or in your professional life.

2. Discuss which of the following 3 issues you found most challenging on this essay exam. Devote a short paragraph to each.

1. Answering questions correctly (based on course content and reading assignments)
2. Answering questions completely (fully addressing all parts of the question)
3. Writing in an appropriate academic tone (avoiding informal/conversational language, colloquial sayings, slang, contradictions and first/second person)
4. Providing adequate and specific examples to support my discussion
5. Writing clear sentences free of wordiness, unrelated tangents, and awkward construction
6. Structuring essays and paragraphs (including a proper introduction, body, and conclusion)
7. Proofreading effectively
8. Employing proper citation formatting
9. Avoiding passive voice
10. Managing time effectively

3. Discuss any of the required *formatting criteria* you had trouble implementing correctly. What specifically gave you trouble? What actions will you take to try to address the issues? (A paragraph or two of discussion is sufficient.) *If you don't think you struggled with any of the formatting requirements, you can simply state that in your response.*

1. Name and Exam # in the header
2. one inch margins
3. 12 point serif font
4. word count
5. page breaks between essays

6. submitted as Word doc
7. spacing requirements (essay is double-spaced, question text is single-spaced, reference list is single-spaced entries with a double-space between entries)
8. correct in-text and reference list formatting
9. no more than 10% of word count for direct quotes; no more than additional 15% for paraphrased quotes
10. including an edited draft of some sort
11. Very often, students struggle to manage their time effectively to complete these exams. Leaving it to the last minute on Sunday afternoon or evening, they find themselves overwhelmed and pressed for time. What strategies did you employ to avoid this on this exam and what do you think you'll do to ensure effective time management for the next one?

4. As you reflect on your first exam and first unit writing assignment, think about your goals for Unit 2. What are you specifically seeking to improve upon in Unit 2 (this can include continued work on challenging areas described above or other issues related to successful completion of the essay exams in this course such as allowing enough time to research, write, and proofread, etc.)?

An acceptable response is a thoughtfully crafted paragraph or several paragraphs. You must demonstrate careful consideration of the question. For example, writing "Start exam earlier" isn't going to cut it.

5. Please upload your completed Exam 1 Rubric (as Word doc or pdf is fine).

6. Is there something from this unit that you feel like you knew really well but it didn't fit into any of the essay topics? Demonstrate your understanding here: