

Read and follow these instructions carefully!

WHY WORKSHOP?

First, all good writers who are concerned with their final products have someone else read their writing. It's no problem for our brains to fill in the gaps and overlook the mistakes in our own writing. It's a strategy that has been helpful for us as humans for thousands of years. However, when it comes to certain things—like our writing—it holds us back.

Second, workshop allows you to get a look at even more samples. You might see something that someone has done and say "Hey, I could do that in my own way!" It provides us with ideas and inspiration.

Most importantly though, reading and analyzing other's works helps us analyze our own works. One of the hardest things is to look at our own writings with an analytical eye and make decisions about what's good and what can be improved. It's often hard for us to spot our own grammatical mistakes. Doing these things for others is a type of exercise that trains our minds to do it for ourselves. And that's a big goal for this class: learning to read our own writing.

STEP 1 FOR ONLINE WORKSHOP: Post your drafts.

In the Emblematic Essay Assignments folder on Blackboard, you'll find a link to a Essay Workshop Discussion. Open that, and in a reply to my post, say Hi to everyone workshopping online and post your drafts—essay and cover letter.

STEP 2 FOR ONLINE WORKSHOP: Respond to at least one classmate

After you've posted your paper, look through the other posts by classmates and choose one to respond to. Once you chose it, make sure to click on reply and put in a message that you're going to respond to their paper.

When you choose, pick someone's paper that doesn't have a message with another classmate saying they'll respond unless there are none without that. If that's the case, then just pick one with the least number of responses.

Read and Consider

- The links below are Word documents that have instructions for each part in them—cover letter and essay. Make sure and do both or you won't get full credit.
- Read and follow the instructions in them.
- Make sure to be thoughtful about the advice you give. There's one set of instructions for the essay and another set for the cover letter.
- These are both docx files so you will get a pop-up window to save the files.
 - [Cover Letter Workshop Form](#)

- [Emblematic Essay Workshop Form online](#)

Return the Cover Letter and Essay Forms

- Save the forms and use the REPLY link below the essay writer's original post where they uploaded the drafts.
 - Save it with "response from your name" at the end of the file name.
 - For example, since the file name is
Emblematic Essay Workshop Form online
then save it as
Emblematic Essay Workshop Form Response online for Classmate
Name from Your Name
- Make sure to give them a brief message, for example, something like this would be fine: "Hey, ClassmateName, here's my reply to your draft. I enjoyed reading it! I hope my comments help out."
- Make sure to attach your response files by the end of our workshop period.

STEP 3: USING ADVICE

- When you get your paper back, read through the advice your partner has given you. Decide which parts you'll use and integrate it into the essay. Proofread carefully. I suggest you print your final copy to do this. Reading a print copy really does help you find things you will want to refine.
- Post your draft and cover letter to the Blackboard Assignment for it by the due date on the schedule.