

Tired of Grading Poor Papers? Improving Student Writing

Are your students getting the greatest possible benefit from your writing assignments? Are you disappointed in the final papers? This might be a good time to redesign your writing assignment to align more carefully with your goals for your class!!

Due to the Covid Virus, all FHSS Writing Lab appointments will be online only.

Encourage your students to sign up at https://fhsswriting.byu.edu/

First, consider your Goal for Your Class

"Here is what I want students to know and/or do as a result of this class"



What Writing Assignment would promote this Goal?



Research Paper

Learn Research Skills

Deepen Understanding of Course Concepts

You do NOT need to start all over!!

On the next page are some tips for finding existing prompts, rubrics, and examples of papers



<u>Disciplines</u>
Historiography Political Brief

Literature Review Ethnography

Theoretical Papers Poster

Social Issue Analysis Book Chapter

Scholarly Article Policy Analysis

Monographs Case Study

Proposal Field Notes

Empirical Article

Need Help?

Do not reinvent the wheel. Search for descriptions of the types of papers you want students to complete. Find existing writing prompts, rubrics, or good and poor examples. Then modify them as you want to.

Here are some helpful sources that have examples of writing assignments:

Discipline	Type of Writing Assignment	Source
History	Historiographies (& other history writing assignments)	American Historical Association Provides a variety of sample writing assignments and rubrics https://www.historians.org/teaching-and-learning/teaching-resources-for-historians/classroom-materials/classroom-materials-sample-assignments University of Richmond Writing Center Provides description and guidelines for a historiography http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/history/historiography.html
Political Science	Policy Analysis Impact Assign (& other types of writing)	Influencing Social Policy Organization Writing assignments, rubrics, and examples http://influencingsocialpolicy.org/resources/activities-assignments/
Psychology	Literature Reviews	Washington Writing Center Provides descriptions of how to create a literature review https://depts.washington.edu/psych/files/writing_center/litrev.pdf UCCS School for Public Affairs Tools for teaching students to create literature reviews https://www.uccs.edu/Documents/spa/Events/literature_reviews_made_easy_ppt.pdf
Economics	Clear Writing Guide	Duke University Guidelines for writing in Economics: https://www.pomona.edu/administration/writing-center/student-resources/writing-humanities-and-social-sciences/young-economist%E2%80%99s-short-guide-writing-economic-research
Geography	Guides to Writing for Geography	adelaide.edu.au > files > docs > learningguide-geographyessay
School of Family Life	Guide for Writing About Families	https://familyessay.org/blog/essay-about-family/ Expanding Definitions of Academic Writing: Family ERIC files.eric.ed.gov > fulltext
Neuroscience	Neuroscience Papers	https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/ejn.13215
Anthropology	Ethnography	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Writing Center Describes and explains how to write ethnographies https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/anthropology/
Sociology	Sociology papers	University of Washington Department of Sociology Describes papers that apply sociological theories or perspectives https://soc.washington.edu/writing-papers-apply-sociological-theories-or-perspectives
	Instructors' Guide to Writing for Sociology	University of California Berkeley Sociology Department A full booklet on Sociology writing https://sociology.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/documents/student_services/writing_guide/Instructors.guide.final.corrected.title.page.pdf

FHSS Writing Lab

1175 JFSB <u>fhss-writinglab@byu.edu</u> 801-422-4454 https://fhsswriting.byu.edu/Pages/Home.aspx

Faculty Supervisor: Joyce Adams (422-8168) Student Lab Manager: Mallory (422-4454)