

ENGL 4384 (Capstone Seminar) Approved 2018

Capstone Essay Assessment Rubric

Score	Thesis and Argument Learning Outcome 3	Organization Learning Outcome 3	Language Learning Outcome 3	Comprehending, Synthesizing, and Evaluating Literary Periods and Genres Learning Outcome 1, 2	Understanding and Applying Cultural and Interdisciplinary Contexts Learning Outcome 1, 2	Comprehension and Application of Critical Technique and Perspective Learning Outcome 1, 2
4 Exemplary Exceeds Expectations Grade Level A (100-90)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a sophisticated thesis that controls the essay and demonstrates independent thinking Supports all claims and ideas with appropriate, fully analyzed examples and compelling insightful arguments Enters into meaningful dialogue with secondary sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows persuasive logical development and organization throughout Strong paragraph structure throughout; each paragraph has a clear focus and is fully unified Causal connections between ideas are evident and aided by strong paragraph transitions that advance the argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains an interesting and varied style Shows mastery of the conventions of standard written English Demonstrates error-free application of MLA manuscript format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displays an exemplary awareness of the relationships between literature and other expressions of culture Skillfully identifies formal elements of drama, fiction, and poetry, as relevant Displays an acute understanding of genre evolution, as relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a complex understanding of the relationship between the text and the political, scientific, philosophical and/or historical forces that contributed to its production. Demonstrates a meaningful awareness of points of contact between subject and other forms of artistic production. Draws nuanced connections between its subject and relevant traditions of world literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows exemplary knowledge and awareness of major trends in literary and cultural theory Demonstrates high-level proficiency in applied literary criticism, employing interpretive practices and theoretical approaches with complexity, originality and rigor Masterfully deploys theoretical terms and concepts to elucidate the complexities of meaning and interpretation, synthesizing key issues in a range of literary theories with a high degree of sophistication, as applicable
3 Proficient Meets Expectations Grade Level B/C (89-70)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides clear thesis and adequate focus on the topic, although argument may be general or remain implicit rather than clearly stated Provides sufficient evidence and analysis throughout essay, although some analysis may be superficial or insufficiently developed Provides adequate, reliable and relevant secondary documentation, where applicable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows adequate logical development throughout Most paragraphs have a stated focus, but some may be weakly unified or insufficiently developed Causal connections and transitions are adequate but may not advance the argument in a compelling manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Style characterized by clear but simplistic or repetitive sentence writing Has sufficient control of standard written English; may contain some errors but no pattern of major errors Demonstrates correct use of most common MLA conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates an adequate understanding of the relationships between literature and other expressions of culture Satisfactorily identifies formal elements of drama, fiction, and poetry, as relevant Presents an adequate understanding of genre evolution, as relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates adequate understanding of the cultural and historical elements that contribute to the production of a text Demonstrates an adequate awareness of the link between the subject and other forms of artistic production Acknowledges some connections between its subject and relevant traditions of world literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows a basic knowledge and awareness of prevalent literary and cultural theories Demonstrates adequate proficiency in applied literary criticism, employing theory with a satisfactory though superficial understanding Adequately deploys theoretical terms and concepts to elucidate the complexities of meaning and interpretation, synthesizing key issues in a range of literary theories with some insight, as applicable; may contain several minor factual, interpretive, or conceptual errors
2 Developing Does not meet Expectations Grade Level D (69-60)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thesis is vague or simplistic; may be merely observational rather than analytical or unsupported based on evidence Does not develop analysis adequately; may primarily describe events or provide inadequate textual evidence to support claims Insufficient engagement with secondary sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows inadequate logical development; may digress from one topic to another Paragraphs consistently brief, weakly unified or undeveloped Causal connections between ideas are not evident and transitions are inadequate to show the relationship between ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unclear sentence structure Insufficient control of Standard written English evidenced by patterns of major errors Insufficient documentation of sources using MLA format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates an inadequate understanding of the relationships between literature and other expressions of culture Reveals little ability to identify the formal elements of drama, fiction, and poetry, as relevant Shows scant understanding of genre evolution, as relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains insufficient context to demonstrate how cultural and historical factors shape a text Evidences little understanding of points of contact between the subject and other forms of art Demonstrates an inadequate understanding of the connections between subject and relevant traditions of world literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows incomplete knowledge and awareness of prevalent literary and cultural theories Demonstrates inadequate skill in applied literary criticism, employing theory with significant factual and conceptual errors, misunderstandings, and/or confusion of significant ideas Ineffectively deploys theoretical terms and concepts to elucidate the complexities of meaning and interpretation, as applicable; contains significant factual, interpretive, and/or conceptual errors
1 Unsatisfactory Failing Grade Level F (59 or Below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no unified thesis There is no adequate development of analysis; little to no evidence to support even generalized claims Little to no engagement with secondary sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is little to no logical development Paragraphing skills are not displayed Logical connections between ideas and/or transitions that show relationship are not present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unclear or absent sentence structure Consistent patterns of major errors in Standard English Little to no documentation of sources using MLA format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates no ability to understand the relationships between literature and other expressions of culture Unable to identify the formal elements of drama, fiction, and poetry, as relevant Shows no comprehension of genre evolution, as relevant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains little to no context that demonstrates how cultural and historical factors shape a text Does not demonstrate an understanding of points of contact between the subject and other forms of art Shows no understanding of the connections between its subject and relevant traditions of world literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows little to no knowledge and awareness of prevalent literary and cultural theories Demonstrates no skill in applied literary criticism, employing little to no theory Does not deploy theoretical terms and concepts to elucidate the complexities of meaning and interpretation, as applicable; contains myriad major factual, interpretive, and/or conceptual errors