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Informal Writing Assignment for HON 101

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HONORS 101: RESEARCH SCHOLARS CORNERSTONE

Informal Writing Assignment

Description: Three times this semester, you will draft a 3-page paper, double space, including SOAPSToneE Chart, about each assigned book for the class. Focus on a social topic in the book that reminds you of any current events. Show your critical thinking (critical thinking requires problem-solving and context) when exploring the topic. Even though this is informal writing, you are encouraged to practice MLA citation.

Due dates: Assignments are due within a week of the final discussion about the book in class.

Purpose: This assignment aligns with Essential Studies, learning the goal of Intercultural Knowledge and Skills. At the end of this course, you will acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to interact successfully with others from diverse backgrounds and be able to apply that understanding to contemporary issues. More specifically, intercultural knowledge and skills foster the capacity to meaningfully engage with the perspectives of people whose cultures and identities differ from yours. To meaningfully engage with others' perspectives, you must be aware of how those perspectives are shaped by larger social structures, issues of contemporary importance, and issues that arise in a global society.

Skills You Develop: Information Literacy.

By completing this assignment, you will be able to create a summary of the book in your own words, produce the SOAPSToneE Chart (Speaker, Occasion, Audience, Purpose, Subject, Tone), and practice MLA (Modern Language Association) citation and reference, and use the summary as part of a bibliography to build information literacy. You will be able to

- Understand the cultural differences.
- Engage with other students from unfamiliar cultural backgrounds.
- Explores diverse cultures, perspectives, and experiences.
- Evaluate cultural nuances, traditions, values, and societal issues from the text.
- Practice MLA citations.

What Knowledge You Acquire: Cultural Competency.

You will become familiar with using information from a book to

- Global Perspectives: Studying different cultures enhances your global awareness and broadens your perspective on global issues.
- Social Structures: You can learn about the social structures and institutions in different cultures, such as family dynamics, gender roles, education systems, political systems, and economic practices.
- Cultural Practices and Traditions: insights into the practices, rituals, ceremonies, and traditions followed by different cultures.
- Stereotypes and Prejudices: This knowledge helps challenge and dismantle biases, promote empathy, and foster a more inclusive society.

- Global Perspectives: Reading about different cultures enhances your global awareness and broadens your perspective on global issues.

Tasks.

1. Focus on a relevant social topic in the book.
2. Show your critical thinking (critical thinking requires problem-solving and context)
3. Use MLA citations.
4. Use SOAPTonE to guide your reading.

Criteria For Success

Successful completion of this assignment will have an MLA layout of the paper, a reference to an excerpt from the book, and how the reading can help inform a current social event. An excellent assignment displays all the steps listed under “Tasks.”

Informal Writing assignments are worth 20% of your total grade.