

# ESSAY RUBRICS: ENGL 1301, 1302, 2000 Literature

## ENGL 1301 & 1302: Non-Research and Personal Essays

### I. Preliminary Work

- **-5 points:** missing **outline and tiny rough draft** in the Discussion Board
- **-5 points:** missing **peer review** of a classmate in the Discussion Board

### II. Final Draft ← Submitted in “Lessons/Assignments – Essays to Submit”.

1. **10 points: THESIS** = Is the thesis located in the second half of the Intro paragraph (preferably as the last sentence in the Intro paragraph), AND is the writer’s opinion specific and focused on the assigned topic?
2. **20 points: STRUCTURE** = Is the essay complete (Intro paragraph, Body paragraphs, Conclusion paragraph), AND are the topic sentences and supporting details for the body paragraphs in the assigned arrangement?
3. **20 points: DETAILS** = Are the supporting details concrete (that is, descriptive enough), specific, and relevant, AND do they fully support and illustrate their topic sentences and, in total, the thesis? Do the details include any assigned requirements?
4. **15 points: DICTION (WORD CHOICE) & TRANSITION (WORD FLOW)** = Is the essay free of diction (word choice) and transition errors (that is, does not sound like a choppy robot speaking or a jumbled illogical sequence of phrases and sentences)? Does the diction sound like human person instead of AI speak?  
**Note: NO "YOU" IN BODY PARAGRAPHS. Use "I" and "WE" instead.**
5. **10 points: WORD COUNT** = Does the total word count of the PARAGRAPHS equal at least the assigned word count?
6. **10 points: GRAMMAR** = Is the essay free of grammar errors (like run-ons and fragments)?
7. **05 points: MECHANICS** = Is the essay free of mechanics errors (like punctuation use, capitalization, and number use)?
8. **10 points: MLA manuscript format style** = Does the essay follow [MLA manuscript](#) format style?

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**100 points = TOTAL Essay Grade**

# ENGL 1301 & 1302: Argumentation with Research

## I. Preliminary Work

- -5 points: missing **outline and tiny rough draft** in the Discussion Board
- -5 points: missing **peer review** of a classmate in the Discussion Board

## II. Final Draft ← Submitted in “Lessons/Assignments – Essays to Submit”.

1. **10 points: CLAIM** = Is the Claim statement located in the second half of the Intro paragraph (preferably as the last sentence in the Intro paragraph). Does the Claim Statement accurately identify **your position, defending your belief regarding** a controversial/ disputed AND SPECIFIC decision or action, based on the assigned topic?
2. **20 points: STRUCTURE** = Is the essay complete (Intro paragraph, Body paragraphs, Conclusion paragraph), AND are the topic sentences and supporting details for the body paragraphs in the assigned Argumentation arrangement?
3. **10 points: DETAILS** = Are the supporting details concrete (that is, descriptive enough), specific, and relevant, AND do they fully support and illustrate their topic sentences and, in total, the Claim? For any researched source used in a body paragraph (that is, anywhere you use OUTSIDE EVIDENCE in a body paragraph), are the sourced details relevant to the topic sentence, EMBEDDED correctly, and have a corresponding analysis/commentary connecting the source to the topic sentence and Claim?
4. **10 points: SOURCES** = Is there the required number of approved college-level sources -- paraphrased or "quoted" as supporting details -- and are these sources' MLA documentation (MLA version 8/9) complete and correct (in-text citation and Work Cited entry), including hanging indentation and double-spacing of the Works Cited list? **Can your reader 100% find those sources from the information in your Works Cited list?**
5. **15 points: DICTION (WORD CHOICE) & TRANSITION (WORD FLOW)** = Is the essay free of diction (word choice) and transition errors (that is, does not sound like a choppy robot speaking or a jumbled illogical sequence of phrases and sentences)? Does the diction sound like human person instead of AI speak?  
**Note: NO "YOU" IN BODY PARAGRAPHS. Use "I" and "WE" instead.**
6. **10 points: WORD COUNT** = Does the total word count of the PARAGRAPHS equal at least the assigned word count?
7. **10 points: GRAMMAR** = Is the essay free of grammar errors (like run-ons and fragments)?
8. **05 points: MECHANICS** = Is the essay free of mechanics errors (like punctuation use, capitalization, and number use)?
9. **10 points: MLA manuscript format style** = Does the essay follow [MLA manuscript](#) format style?

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**100 points = TOTAL Essay Grade**

# ENGL 1302: Long Argumentation with Annotated Works Cited

## I. Preliminary Work

- -5 points: missing **outline and tiny rough draft** in the Discussion Board
- -5 points: missing **peer review** of a classmate in the Discussion Board

## II. Final Draft ← Submitted in “Lessons/Assignments – Essays to Submit”.

1. **10 points: CLAIM** = Claim statement located in the second half of the Intro paragraph (preferably as the last sentence in the Intro paragraph) and accurately identifies **your position, defending your belief regarding** a controversial/ disputed AND SPECIFIC decision or action, based on the assigned topic?
2. **20 points: STRUCTURE** = essay complete (Intro paragraph, Body paragraphs, Conclusion paragraph), AND are the topic sentences and supporting details for the body paragraphs in the assigned Argumentation arrangement?
3. **10 points: DETAILS** = supporting details concrete (that is, descriptive enough), specific, and relevant, AND fully support and illustrate their topic sentences and, in total, the Claim? For any researched source used in a body paragraph (that is, anywhere you use OUTSIDE EVIDENCE in a body paragraph), are the sourced details relevant to the topic sentence, EMBEDDED correctly, and have a corresponding analysis/commentary connecting the source to the topic sentence and Claim?
4. **10 points: SOURCES** = the required number of approved college-level sources -- paraphrased or "quoted" as supporting details -- and are these sources' MLA documentation complete and correct (*in-text citation and Work Cited entry*), including hanging indentation and double-spacing of the Works Cited list? **Can your reader 100% find those sources from the information in your Works Cited list?**
5. **15 points: DICTION (WORD CHOICE) & TRANSITION (WORD FLOW)** = the essay free of diction (word choice) and transition errors (that is, does not sound like a choppy robot speaking or a jumbled illogical sequence of phrases and sentences)? Does the diction sound like a human person instead of AI speak? **Note: NO "YOU" IN BODY PARAGRAPHS. Use "I" and "WE" instead.**
6. **10 points: WORD COUNT** = the essay meets at least the assigned word count?
7. **10 points: GRAMMAR** = the essay free of grammar errors (like run-ons and fragments)?
8. **05 points: MECHANICS** = the essay free of mechanics errors (like punctuation use, capitalization, and number use)?
9. **10 points: ANNOTATIONS - COMPLETE AND UNDER EACH WORKS CITED ENTRY** =
  - A. **Summarize:** what is the main message of the source?
  - B. **Assess:** how can we know that the author(s) is credible/trustworthy?
  - C. **Reflect:** how did you use the source in your essay?

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**100 points = TOTAL Essay Grade**

# ENGL 2000-level: Literature Capstone Paper

## Did the Writer Follow the Writing Process?

- **5 points: Outline & Rough Draft** in the Discussion Board
- **5 points: Peer review** done in the Discussion Board

## Did the Writer Follow the FINAL DRAFT 9-Part Criteria?

### \* 5 points:

1) The **Introduction paragraph** ends with your **THESIS Statement**: Does the Thesis Statement accurately identify **your opinion** on a topic based on any of the Discussion Board assignments? <-- THIS SHOULD NOT BE A "QUOTE" NOR A QUESTION.

### \* 20 points:

2) Is it an Essay (Intro paragraph, Body paragraphs, Conclusion paragraph)? ALSO, the Capstone Paper is an analysis essay with at least THREE REASONS, following the Capstone Paper Generic Outline. So, are your **body paragraphs** in the correct **STRUCTURE**, and do each body paragraph have the required information in the correct structure order – Reason 1 with Unit Reading Examples, Reason 2 with Unit Reading Examples, Reason 3 with Unit Reading Examples?

### \* 10 points:

3) Do the Capstone Paper's paragraphs meet the required **WORD COUNT**?

### \* 10 points:

4) All the **DETAILS** (reasons and evidence) should support the Thesis. So, do all the details support that Thesis, or are there details that digress from the Thesis and therefore need to be deleted and replaced? Is each piece of evidence (the examples) **SPECIFIC** and **CONCRETE** (that is, are there names of places, persons, and so on directly from the Unit reading text)?

**NOTE 1: ONLY THE UNIT READINGS ALLOWED – NO SECONDARY SOURCES!**

**NOTE 2:** For any Unit reading used in a **body** paragraph (that is, anywhere you use **OUTSIDE EVIDENCE** in a body paragraph), are the sourced details relevant to the topic sentence, **EMBEDDED** correctly, and have a corresponding analysis/commentary?

1. Your Topic Sentence. <-- THIS SHOULD NOT BE A "QUOTE" NOR A QUESTION.

2. Your explanation of what that topic sentence means (optional)

3. Example pulled from a Unit reading -- supporting your Topic Sentence -- either "Quoted," paraphrased, or summarized – with in-text citation: a) Beginning ID tag of name or title and/or b) parentheses at the end, which follows MLA documentation style.

4. If you have more than one example, have transitions between examples – Also, In addition, Next, Or, However, On the other hand

5. End your body paragraph with an explanation of what these examples add to our understanding of the Thesis.

**\* 10 points:**

5) Are there any errors in **GRAMMAR**, like run-ons and fragments? **NOTE: Recommended online grammar checker for grammar, mechanics, and diction: [GrammarCheck](#)**

**\* 10 points:**

6) Are there any errors in **MECHANICS**, like incorrect punctuation (especially comma use), capitalization, and number use? **NOTE: Dr. Ramos follows [Purdue OWL](#)'s mechanics information.**

**\* 10 points:**

7) Are there any errors in **DICTION**, like incorrect word choice (like its vs. it's, there vs. their, definitely vs. defiantly, slang words), deficient transition words (that is, the essay sounds very choppy and disjointed, like a robot speaking), use of "you" in the body paragraphs, awkward phrasing, confused words, awkward phrasing, repetitive word use, and/or too-casual/informal slang/idioms? Does the diction sound like a human person instead of AI speak?

**NOTE: Dr. Ramos DOES ALLOW careful use of "I", "we", and "our" in your essay. NO "YOU" IN THE BODY PARAGRAPHS.**

**\* 10 points:**

8) Are **the assigned Unit reading SOURCES** paraphrased or "quoted" in the essay's body paragraphs, and are their MLA documentation complete and correct (in-text citation and Work Cited entry), including hanging indentation and double-spacing of the Work Cited list?

**\* 5 points:**

9) Are there any errors in MLA **MANUSCRIPT** style (that is, paper format) -- corner page numbering, header placement, essay title placement, paragraph indentation, double-space line spacing, AND no extra spaces between header, essay title, and paragraphs?

**NOTE 1:** Everyone should use the [MLA Final Draft Template](#) Word document file for your final drafts since I've done the correct MLA manuscript formatting for you.

**NOTE 2:** If you want to learn MLA manuscript formatting from a blank Word document, then here's a *YouTube* tutorial video: <https://youtu.be/nKtHQMecdew>

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**Grand Total: 100 points**