

Cultural Critique Essay Prompt

ENGL 1102 – Georgia Southern University – Spring 2016

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Due Dates:

Full Draft (minimum word count required) Due: Tuesday 3/29 on folio by class time OR by Conference Meeting Time, whichever comes first

Final Draft Due: Thursday, 4/7 via Dropbox on Folio by 10:00 pm

Minimum Word Count:

1,200 words

Minimum Sources:

5 **interdisciplinary** sources, at least 3 of which are academic (essay should be no more than 25% source quotes and/or paraphrases)

Prompt:

Write an essay in which you analyze some aspect of culture. The object of your analysis could be a trend, tradition, experience, narrative, or other cultural feature. Your thesis should make a claim about the value, impact, and/or significance of the thing you're analyzing. Your essay should discuss the following four questions:

1. Why are people attracted to this experience/trend/activity/tradition/narrative? (Why is it so popular?)
2. What do they value about it?
3. What does their enjoyment or celebration of this thing say about what they value in general?
4. What are the positive, negative, or neutral impacts of this thing on both its adherents/celebrants AND the larger mainstream culture? What is the extent of this thing's influence?

Grading Criteria:

- Writer (you) references at least 5 relevant interdisciplinary sources that pass the CRAAP test, and all sources are integrated elegantly and cited in correct MLA style
- Writer's thesis asserts a compelling analysis of a cultural feature, and the subsequent argument is organized and well-supported with examples and evidence
- Writer adequately discusses the four above questions using concrete examples and/or evidence
- Writer proficiently employs an elegant writing style and the essay is free from grammar, spelling, citation, and other technical errors.