

Dr. Cothran  
CRTW Paper 1

For this assignment, you will need to write an essay that shows your ability to explore all eight of the Elements of Reasoning (pictured on page 47 of LTTT). I will be grading you on a) how thoughtfully you address each element and b) how well you incorporate all of your ideas into a coherent essay.

Specifically, this essay should be **4-6 pages** in length, typed, double-spaced, in 12 point Times New Roman font.

Topic:

Look back at the time when you decided that you would attend Winthrop University. Using all eight of the elements, think about your thinking. Explore the thought processes that led you here. Then write a thesis-driven essay that “goes around the circle.” As you conclude (or begin) the essay, make a few statements about potential *alternatives* you may or may not have considered, as well as the *context* within which you made your decision to attend Winthrop.

Side note: Each time you introduce a new element for discussion, put that element in bold. For example, if you are writing two paragraphs on your particular Question at Issue (“Should I go to college?” “Which college should I attend?” “Can I pay for college?” “How can I go to college and stay with the person I love?” “How can I move far away from my family?” “Where can I party the hardest?” “What does God want me to do with my life next year?”), somewhere in those two paragraphs you should acknowledge that you are exploring your specific Question at Issue and put that term in a bold font.