

HMPX 102  
Cothran  
Paper 1 Assignment

For this assignment, you will need to write a 4 page (typed, double-spaced) essay that takes a clear stance on one of the issues listed below. Be sure to offer valid arguments not only for your side, but also against the main points of the other side. This means you have to look objectively at both sides of the issue before you begin. Your argument should be mature and logical, and your supporting evidence should include many specific examples and details. Include ideas, either quoted or paraphrased (using correct MLA format) from at least one of the pieces we have read for class. You are not required to do outside research for this paper, but you may include information from other sources if you wish, if it is properly documented. You may go over the page requirement, but not under it.

Suggested topics:

1. To be well-educated, people should/should not seek exposure to facts and ideas that go against their existing beliefs.
2. Individual college students should/should not enter a learning community in order to become educated, rather than simply to be “trained” for a career.
3. Educated people, regardless of career choice should/should not have a good background in the arts and sciences (see Winthrop Catalog).
4. Educators and educational communities should/should not address concepts of moral and ethical behavior (in addition to facts, figures, history) when teaching students.
5. People in our culture who want to be educated should/should not spend more time reading (good books, articles, and newspapers) than watching TV.
6. An educated person needs/does not need good writing and speaking skills (sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and especially vocabulary).
7. Becoming an educated person is a pleasant/painful process.

Remember: I can help you with this paper only if you start early and bring me drafts for comments and suggestions. Good luck!