General Education Assessment Plan

G.6: Critical Thinking Assignment
Sample 1

Essay

Read Wendell Berry's "Thoughts in the Presence of Fear." Berry argues that no "crisis or emergency can justify any form of political oppression." Take a stand arguing for or against this claim. Think about what your text says, "Are there times when individual freedoms must be sacrificed for the common good? Or does the common good never outweigh the rights of the individual?"

Write and post a rough draft for a 350-500 word essay again using the persuasive essay format discussed in the lecture notes. Be sure to follow the MLA format posted as a sample.

Your partner will post his/her rough draft for you to peer review as well. Read each other’s papers and complete the peer review form (found in the Handouts folder) and post it back to the group area and send it to me. You will receive a grade for the peer review as well. Post the Peer Review back to your partner by day’s end on April 15, 2013.

After you receive the peer review from your partner, review it carefully. You are welcome to make any of the changes suggested—or not! Remember, it is your paper, and you will ultimately want to be satisfied with the paper.

Submit your final, polished and proofread draft to me.

Thanks to Judith Scharle for allowing use of this sample.