

Video Response Essays

We will watch several videos during the semester. These videos have been chosen to help illustrate and reinforce concepts we've discussed in class. Your job is to write an essay that clearly relates information and concepts learned in class with examples discussed and illustrated in the video. When writing you should be sure to do the following:

- Use actual, specific examples from the video. Do not refer to something as the "animals in the desert" or the "man in the lab coat". You need to use the example's name, e.g. the "African elephants in the Kalahari" , or the "Swedish researcher, Lars Lundgren".
- Your goal is to relate these examples to concepts from lecture. You need to clearly state those concepts AND indicate that they are concepts we have been studying in class. I want you to be obvious here. You need to say, "We learned in class that...." You need to show me that you know what the relevant concepts are and that you learned about them in lecture.
- Make a clear connection between the concepts and the examples. You need to tell me how a particular example illustrates the concept. If you use African elephants as an example, you need to relate it to a particular concept. For example:

We learned in class that all living organisms need water to survive. This is illustrated in the video by the herd of African elephants traveling across the Kalahari desert. Even though the trip is long and difficult, it is necessary for them to get to the water they need to survive.

I realize that some of these requirements differ from the standard essay format. That doesn't mean that you still don't need to use correct grammar. You need to use complete, proper sentences that are organized in a coherent manner. Words should be used and spelled correctly. Sentences begin with capital letters and have periods at the end.

All essays should be at least 250 words in length and no more than 500 words. Each is worth 25 points.

All video essays are turned in via turnitin.com (see "How to submit assignments to turnitin.com" for directions). Please do NOT give me a hard copy. Essays must be submitted by 9pm on the days it is due. Late video responses **may** be accepted under certain circumstances and only with permission from the teacher. Any late submissions will incur a 10% point reduction for each day they are late.

Completed rubrics and scores for these assignments will be available only on turnitin.com. You will not receive a hard copy of the completed rubric for this assignment. If you want to find out what score you got, you must check your account at turnitin.com.

The following rubric is used to grade these essays.

	5 points	3 points	2 points	0 points
Use of correct, specific examples from the video.	3 or more	2	only 1	no examples, or examples not from the video we watched in class
Statement of course topics that relate to video.	Course topics clearly stated and defined as content studied in class.	Course topics mentioned, but not clearly stated as content studied in class.	Course topics casually mentioned as part of a summary of the video.	No clear mention of course topics, only summarized the video
Connections made between topics from class and examples from video.	Clear and obvious connections made between stated course topics and examples from video.	Connections between stated course topics and examples are loosely implied, but not clearly stated.	Vague connections made between course topics and examples from video OR connections made with course topics NOT clearly stated.	No connections made between course topics and examples OR used examples that were not from the correct video.
Length of essay	250 – 500 words, not counting name, title, date, etc.	More than 500 words	200 – 250 words	Less than 200 words
Use of correct English grammar.	Use of complete, coherent sentences, words used and spelled correctly.	Few (2-4) improper sentences, misused or words.	Many (5-10) improper sentences, misused or misspelled words.	Nearly incomprehensible. More than 10 improper, incoherent sentences, misused or misspelled words.