

## Essay III

Your third essay asks you to write a sustained, thesis-based argumentative interpretation that weaves together the divergent material of the course: Richard Rodriguez's "The Achievement of Desire," Paulo Freire's essay "The Banking Concept of Education," and Walker Percy's "The Loss of the Creature," along with your own synthesis and interpretations of how the essays fit together. **Your essay is due December 9 at 4:00 pm. A formal proposal must be made to me in conference the week of December 1 & 2. A draft thesis is due in class on November 21. A Rough Draft is due in conference on December 5-8.** Your essay must reflect a critical, insightful understanding of the texts and issues we've read and discussed this semester. Your essay must directly respond to one of the five prompts below; any essay, no matter how skilled, that fails to respond to the prompt will fail.

1. Consider the role of the teacher in theories of education that emphasize learning as a student's relationship with himself or herself. Argue that despite the necessity of student self-discipline and self-awareness, there nevertheless is an important role for the teacher within such an educational system. You should formulate three or four important features of this role for the teacher, using the material in the three essays we've read.
2. Consider the role of difficulty in theories of education that emphasize learning as a student's relationship with himself or herself. Argue that difficulty surfaces within learning independent of the role of the teacher, but instead depends on one's relationship with oneself. You should formulate three or four important features of difficulty within the relationship with oneself as an act of learning, using the material in the three essays we've read.
3. Consider the relationship between imitation, creativity, and the role of others in theories of education that emphasize learning as a student's relationship with himself or herself. Argue that there's an important role for others within this relationship one builds with oneself as one learns. You should formulate three or four important features that connect others to this self-relationship using imitation and the relationship with oneself as an act of learning, centering on the material in the three essays we've read.
4. Consider the class we're in this semester—WRT120. Argue that the course this semester advocates for a method of learning that occurs through a student's relationship with himself or herself. Using substantial points from the three essays we've read, and substantial evidence from the class we've undertaken, develop a view of this class as a token of the theories of education and learning it studies and advocates. Make sure to develop a thesis and an essay that advances a formal academic essay about this semester's method of learning to write.

You must submit a 5 to 7 page essay, of between 1200 and 1800 words. Essays that do not meet the wordcount will receive an F. The essay that you submit should adhere to the standards of college-level essay writing. Your essay should reflect your best work of the semester. As such, you should take care that you proofread it carefully. You should also take care that it is polished and refined, representing a serious attempt to complete the assignment. Any essay that represents shoddy workmanship or a lack of preparation will fail on its face.

You will be graded on three main standards. First of all, you should present an argument that attempts to prove its main point. Secondly, that main point must consist of an idea that generates insightful perspective through the texts we've read. Thirdly, the argument must be written in such a way that it is clear, well-ordered, and smoothly constructed. With these in mind, your essay will be judged along three main standards: Strength of Argument, Insightfulness and Sophistication of Main Idea, and Skill of Construction. For more information on standards and guidelines, see the handouts on Argument, Thesis, and Introduction, as well as the grading guidelines handout.

Rhetorical focuses for this essay will include the introduction, successfully using evidence in argumentation, and paragraph order and development.

Late essays will receive a 0 because of the end of the semester.