

Ashland English 102 Essay #2

Douglass and Corcoran on Learning to Read

Begin by reading Douglass and Corcoran on Learning to Read (available through Blackboard).

Your Writing Task

Douglass and Corcoran both faced enormous obstacles to literacy. Learning to read was not automatic for them, yet they both did learn to read. What did they have in common? What can you learn from their quest that you can apply to your own education?

Your task in this paper is to discuss paths to literacy: Frederick Douglass, John Corcoran, and yourself. Find points of comparison and contrast, formulate a thesis, and support your thesis.

Mechanical Details

Length: Minimum 1300 words not counting title, your name, etc. That's about a four-page paper. There is no maximum, but try to keep it under 1950. Papers significantly under the minimum (90% or less) will not receive the best possible grade.

Format: Standard MLA format. (12-point Times Roman type, double-spaced, 1" margin all around, MLA header.)

Submitting the paper:

- This paper will be submitted electronically through Blackboard. Instructions are available on the Blackboard website for this course.

Due Dates

1. **Reverse outline:** Monday, February 17, 2020
2. **Peer editing:** Wednesday, February 19, 2020.
3. **Final copy:** Friday, February 21, 2020.

This essay is worth 100 points.

Note about peer editing:

Peer editing counts as a quiz. You get credit if you show up in person with two printed copies of your rough draft (at least 90% of the assigned length). Do not expect us to hand your laptop around the room and make comments on your word processing file. Take a deep breath and actually print these out on paper.