

## Paper 1: Evaluation (Review) Paper

English W131

Instructor: Ryan P. Shepherd

- **Assignment:**
  - Thoroughly evaluate an artistic work, program, product, service, or website. If you are unsure of your topic, please discuss it with the instructor before writing.
  - Appropriate topics for evaluation include (but are not limited to):
    - Artistic works
      - Films and TV programs
      - Art shows or gallery openings
      - Books including novels, collections of short stories or poems, biographies, graphic novels, and so on.
      - CDs or musical performances
    - Programs
      - Classes or other instruction
      - Camps
      - Recreational programs including softball leagues, bingo functions, or vacation spots.
    - Services
      - Mechanical work
      - Hair, nail, makeup, or other cosmetic services
      - Government services
    - Websites
  - Analyze and evaluate several specific components of the topic (for example, if evaluating a movie, a student may use acting, plot pacing, direction, and music as criteria by which the film is evaluated). A minimum of three specific criteria are required.
  - PLEASE NOTE: this is not simply a summary of the topic; instead, you must determine what is good and bad about the topic, *why* it is good or bad (using examples), and give an overall evaluation of the topic (for example, would you take the class again?).
- **Purpose:** to familiarize the student with evaluation in the academic sense of the word. This assignment aims to prepare students for critique and analysis at the college level by requiring students to give concrete reasons for their feelings about their topic.
- **Requirements:**
  - FOUR to SIX typed pages formatted according the guidelines of the syllabus.
  - The audience addressed in this piece is type of person likely to be interested in your topic. Voice, tone, and style will vary according to the audience.
  - Forum is at the discretion of the writer.

- Minimal research is recommended but not required. All research, however, should be documented. Suggested areas of research include:
  - other works by the performer, artist, writer, or director
  - other similar programs or services
  - interviews with people familiar with your topic
  - interviews with people involved with your topic.
- This paper, however, should not rely heavily on research but instead should be based on your interpretation of your topic.
- **Grading Criteria:**
  - Explanation of Evaluation Criteria
  - Clarity of Evaluation Criteria
  - Focus on Evaluation Criteria
  - Attention to Audience
  - Support of Claims
  - Support of Main Idea
  - Concrete Use of Examples
  - Appropriate and Focused Organization
- **Due Dates:**
  - **February 19**: First draft due for instructor commentary
  - **March 4**: Second draft due for peer review
  - Final draft due in portfolio