



Writing for Humanities (Transcript)

The ultimate goal in writing in humanities is to explain or to understand the human experience. The humanities include art, music, literature, composition, creative writing, theater, foreign language, and more. Broadly, these fields cover the way people express ideas, information, and feelings. Humanities are, at their very core, the essence of the human experience.

Writing about visual content draws upon similar analytical skills that you acquire in other courses. Much like many courses in humanities, they draw on English. There are certain mediums that all of us look at and consider to be art, such as paintings, sculptures, drawing, and sketches. But art can include much more, such as architecture, crafts, printmaking, graphic design, computer graphics, clothing design. In art courses, students analyze a piece of art using their understanding of art terms to formulate a cohesive and thoughtful critique, discussing things such as the artwork's currency, authority, purpose, and other areas.

Communication Studies is a diverse field that draws from a number of academic areas, but for our purposes at GMC, we are looking at communication courses that will primarily require students to write their own speeches, which are basically essays that are delivered orally. Students may also be asked to evaluate other forms of communication, such as movies, songs, media campaigns, plays, and other things. Our 200 level courses, students begin to explore how communication varies across cultures.

In English courses, we look at either various topics or we analyze literature. In English 101, we cover a variety of topics and types of papers ranging from process analysis to narrative essay to argumentative research paper. In English 102 and literature courses, Students will be writing about literature. Students will be asked to write about short stories, poetry, plays, and even a novel. Most foreign language courses offered at GMC are focused on students learning to communicate in a foreign language.

The foreign languages offered at Georgia Military currently are French, Spanish, and German. In the 200-level courses, students will analyze the interrelation of geography, history, and culture achievements from a specific foreign language-speaking country.

Writing and music can involve several types of assignments, such as argumentative papers, concert reports, historical analysis, song analysis, and performance or media comparisons. In these courses, students will describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate a musical score.

Writing about theater or drama includes writing about plays, productions, and performances. Students will begin the writing process by thinking about what makes the production exciting to watch. You'll look at theatrical periods and theatrical techniques. Students will also be asked to view and critique a live play, and they will write a critical essay or critique in which the student describes, analyzes, interprets, and evaluates the theatrical production.

Do not assume that all humanities classes will use MLA format. It is the most popular format and the most common format for humanities classes, but they may also ask you to use APA or Chicago. There are also other types of formats. Always look at the directions for a particular assignment very carefully to see what format the professor is asking you to use.

Writing is a skill like any other skill in your life. It comes with practice and determination. Begin any paper by carefully reviewing the directions. If there's a rubric, look at it, because that's how the professor is going to grade you on that particular assignment. Remember skills you learned in English 101, and if you haven't had English 101, please locate where the free tutoring is offered for your campus, or if you're with the GOLC, it should be in your learning system, such as Moodle or Canvas. These tips will help you adjust your writing and approach based on your specific course. And just remember, writing comes with practice and determination.