

Instructor: Professor David Tomkins
Writing 150
Health & Healing
Writing Project #4

Writing Project #4: Final Portfolio

Purpose: This assignment consists of two parts: Writing Project 4, a final argumentative essay, and a short Supplementary Essay in which you reflect on your experience of attending an on-campus event related to Health and Healing. In both essays, you will continue honing the *invention*, *arrangement*, *research*, and *revision* techniques you have learned this semester, and also examine more deliberately your current habits of *style* and *tone*.

Premise (Part 1): In this final argumentative essay, you will make a case not only for the significance of a pressing health issue, but also for the steps required to bring about its positive resolution. From the difficulties of treating Malaria patients in Liberia who are afraid of Ebola to the complexities of tackling mental health crises on university campuses, the depth of our understanding of a given health issue determines, in part, what strategies we ultimately deem viable, practical, and successful. So push yourself to understand your chosen health issue as fully as possible. And keep in mind, too, that social and cultural factors often dictate precisely what qualifies as a successful solution.

Writing Task: Choose what you believe to be the most urgent, pressing health issue threatening our future—identify the issue’s scope, as well as the community or communities affected, and in 1,700-word, thesis-driven essay respond to the following question:

**What strategy or strategies would work best for resolving
the urgent health issue you have selected?**

Premise (Part 2): In this second part of your Final Portfolio, reflect on your experience of attending an on-campus event related to our thematic of Health and Healing. In addition to describing the event—its occasion, goals, speakers, etc.—consider how its content has enhanced your appreciation for the complexities of Health and Healing that we discussed in class, and that you wrote about in your four major essays. Over the course of this semester, you have explored a variety of health issues, from current trends in diet and exercise, to the pros and cons of (sometimes profoundly invasive) preventive measures, to the complex cultural dimensions of practicing medicine and receiving treatment. What has your exposure to these issues—and your thinking and writing about them—taught you about Health and Healing. And how did attending this on-campus event change, augment, or in any way enrich what you have learned?

Writing Task: In a brief, 600-word reflective essay, respond to the following question:

**How did attending this on-campus event compliment the understanding
of Health and Healing you have developed in Writing 150 this semester?**