

HI101/HI151 Reflective End of Term Essay

As a new cadet arriving at West Point on R-Day of 2020 you probably had some ideas about the United States Army and/or the nature of military service in America. After taking HI101/151, you are now in a position to reexamine your assumptions and to use your newly acquired historical knowledge and skills in sharpening your understanding of the army and America's citizen soldiers.

In an essay of no more than 900 words, briefly described at least one of your preconceptions and, using historical evidence and reasoning gained in HI101/151, explain how your study of history has corrected, refined, or validated your prior belief.

Notes:

You may begin work at 1630, 03 December 2020.

You will submit your essay in your section's Team page no later than 1630, 06 December 2020. Do not submit your paper late or you will be in danger of failing the course.

This essay is open book and open notes. You may not use any other outside assistance (i.e. other cadets, Writing Center, etc.).

You **will not be assessed** on the quality of your prior assumptions, but on your ability to harness what you have learned in reflecting on them. Because you **will be assessed** on your communication skills, the essay should be carefully edited for organization, clarity, and grammar.

Writing and editing the essay, including consulting your course texts and notes, should take no more than three and a half hours (3.5 hours). You are not required to complete the essay in a continuous block of time. It will be beneficial to read the prompt and allow your ideas to percolate.

Formal footnotes are not required but you must support your claim by telling the reader where the information comes from. For example – "McPherson noted that most Civil War soldiers were motivated by the war's cause." The intent is to support your reflection with evidence and to give credit to other historians' ideas.

You must submit your assignment in Teams with a cover sheet. You will also sign an e-acknowledgement statement on CIS. NO works cited page is required as you are referencing course texts.

Do not submit your paper late or you will be in danger of failing the course. Technology issues are not an excuse. Plan to submit your essay with enough time to contact your instructor if you face technological issues.

AI will not be allowed for this assignment. If you have questions about any of the notes regarding the essay you may ask your instructor for clarification.