

# Comparison/Contrast Essay

The colonial experience for the territories of North America covers a wide span of years. Select two historical figures to examine in a formal essay comparing/contrasting their documents and intentions.

DUE: Friday 07.29.11. Upload to turnitin.com and provide print version.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Choices: Christopher Columbus / Captain John Smith  
Bartolome de las Casas / Roger Williams
2. Find two historical critical essays from database related to your choice of topics.
3. Create a short essay regarding the authors' writings.  
Detail the apparent agendas and plausible hidden intentions, or motivations.  
*What cultural influences and societal agendas show in their writing?*
4. Essay Length: approximately 3 *full* pages, plus a works cited page.
5. Create a formal and intricate introduction which clearly shows the focus of your essay and leads the reader into subsequent paragraphs.
6. Use five or more sentences per paragraph. Back up your views with quotes from the primary research and collected secondary material.
  - Every paragraph should have a cited quote from resources.
  - The introduction and concluding paragraph should *not* have quotes nor paraphrases.
  - Never close a paragraph with a quote or a paraphrase.
7. Use the correct MLA standards for essay format.
  - Indicate resources by utilizing parenthetical citations.
  - Create a work cited information to reference material.
  - Your course anthology should be listed as one of your sources.
8. Exercise due Friday 07.29, beginning of class.
9. Be sure to proof your work. Points will be deducted for basic grammar errors and misspelled words.

# assignment 01

# Comparison/Contrast Essay

Be sure to consult your copy of *Bedford* from English 1301 for any documentation or research question.

## ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

1. Be sure to use signal phrases and proper parenthetical citations.

In this assignment's case, the names of authors are less important to mention in parenthetical notations. See item #1 for book entries on page 518.

*example:*

In the fairy tale, "Godfather Death," the Grimm brothers establish a personified figure of death, who is often described with human features. He is shown walking "with withered legs" (209).

2. When quoting dialogue, be sure to punctuate correctly. See *Bedford* item 37c, p. 394: "Use single quotation marks to enclose a quotation within a quotation." (or in this case dialogue).

*example:*

The story relates how the old Queen gives her daughter a cloth, saying: " 'Dear child, preserve this carefully, it will be of service to you on your way' " (405).

3. If quoting more than four lines of text in your paper, use an indented block quote. These do not require double quotation marks. See *Bedford* item 37b, p. 393.

4. All work cited entries must follow proper MLA guidelines.

*example:*

Grimm, Jacob and Wilhelm, "The Goose-Girl." *The Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales*. Trans. James Stern. New York: Random House, 1972. Print.

# assignment 01