

Gordon Rule Course Writing Requirements
Student Information

To support a culture of academic excellence, to maintain consistency and to create comparable levels of rigor in all designated courses, the following are the minimum criteria for Gordon Rule courses:

- ▶ All writing assignments must be the students' original, independently produced work and demonstrate college-level proficiency. Writing assignments used to fulfill the Gordon Rule requirement, may include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Formal and informal essays
 - In-class writings with clearly stated performance criteria
 - Critical analyses of course readings, presentations, or discussions
 - Research papers
 - Creative writings appropriate to the course
 - Reports
 - Academic journals
 - Case Studies
 - Portfolios
 - Oral history assignments
 - Position papers
 - Speech outlines and scripts

- ▶ Gordon Rule writing assignments must be polished, edited pieces written outside of regular class time. All of these formal academic writing assignments must conform to standard writing practices including the following:
 - The writing will have a clearly defined thesis or central idea.
 - The writing will include adequate evidence to support the thesis or idea.
 - The writing will reflect the awareness of the conventions of standard written English such as grammar, punctuation, spelling and word usage.
 - The writing will use clear and logical organization.
 - The writing will demonstrate the ability to synthesize and apply discipline content at the course-specific level.
 - The writing will demonstrate the ability to discriminate between credible and unreliable sources of information.
 - The writing will be formatted or presented in a manner appropriate to the assignment.
 - The writing will conform to style standards appropriate to the course or discipline as determined by the instructor (i.e. MLA, APA, etc.).