

**THE TITLE OF YOUR ESSAY:  
BE CREATIVE BY PROVIDING YOUR OWN  
TITLE**

**Course:**  
**Institution:**  
**Instructor:** Jason Dyck

**Name:**  
**Date:** September 12, 2019

When you write an essay, take pride in what you are doing. Be mindful that few people in the world have the finances or the opportunity to study at the university level.<sup>1</sup> Find a topic you are passionate about, one that fits with your intellectual interests or your own personal history. Writing an essay is difficult because it is a creative process that requires imagination and discipline.<sup>2</sup> Be assured, however, that it is a fruitful and rewarding experience, one that allows you to express your own conclusions about the research you have done. Do not get discouraged when you get your paper back filled with grammatical corrections and comments.<sup>3</sup> Even the most seasoned scholar still receives their manuscript from publishing editors with suggestions for revision. Writing is a process, and one that lasts a lifetime.<sup>4</sup>

When you write your essay, make sure you provide a title page with all the appropriate information outlined above.<sup>5</sup> The body should be written in 12-font with Times New Roman letters on double-spaced pages. Footnotes should appear in 10-font at the bottom of each page and should be listed in a consecutive manner.<sup>6</sup> A bibliography needs to appear at the end of the essay with the title “Bibliography” centered at the top of a separate page in boldface.<sup>7</sup> Look at the examples I have given

---

<sup>1</sup> Peter Bakewell, *A History of Latin America: Empires and Sequels, 1450–1930* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1997), 23.

<sup>2</sup> Bakewell, *A History of Latin America*, 123.

<sup>3</sup> Bakewell, *A History of Latin America*, 123.

<sup>4</sup> Mark A. Burkholder and Lyman L. Johnson, *Colonial Latin America*, 3rd ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), 123.

<sup>5</sup> Bakewell, *A History of Latin America*, 45.

<sup>6</sup> James Lockhart and Stuart Schwartz, *Early Latin America: A History of Colonial Spanish America and Brazil* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983), 234.

<sup>7</sup> Lockhart and Schwartz, *Early Latin America*, 124.

you in this sample paper as models for citations.<sup>8</sup> For more information on how to cite other types of sources, turn to the *Chicago Manual of Style*.<sup>9</sup>

If you are told to write a seven-page paper, follow instructions and write a paper that is exactly seven pages.<sup>10</sup> Every paragraph is an opportunity for you to prove your argument and practice your writing skills.<sup>11</sup> Those of you who fail to meet the requirement concerning length demonstrate a lack of effort, which will be reflected in your overall grade.<sup>12</sup> All the best as you prepare your essays; let your genius flow and enjoy the experience because reading and writing are truly precious gifts.<sup>13</sup>

Please note that you should not have a footnote for every sentence and that the citations in this sample paper do not match what I have written. I was simply filling in space so that you could see how a paper should be formatted. In the footnotes, there are examples of a book, an edited volume, and a journal article. I have also shown you how to cite a work more than one time and in multiple sections of an essay. It is important to stress here again that all papers need an introduction with a thesis statement, a body that develops that thesis, and a conclusion that sums up what was accomplished in the paper.

---

<sup>8</sup> Lockhart and Schwartz, *Early Latin America*, 35.

<sup>9</sup> Edwin Williamson, *The Penguin History of Latin America* (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1992), 345.

<sup>10</sup> William B. Taylor, "Mexico's Virgin of Guadalupe in the Seventeenth-Century: Hagiography and Beyond," in *Colonial Saints: Discovering the Holy in the Americas, 1500–1800*, eds. Allan Greer and Jodi Bilinkoff (New York and London: Routledge, 2003), 284.

<sup>11</sup> Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra, "New World, New Stars: Patriotic Astrology and the Invention of Indian and Creole Bodies in Colonial Spanish America, 1600–1650," *American Historical Review* 104, no. 1 (1999): 45.

<sup>12</sup> Taylor, "Mexico's Virgin of Guadalupe," 285.

<sup>13</sup> Cañizares-Esguerra, "New World, New Stars," 56.

## Bibliography

- Bakewell, Peter. *A History of Latin America: Empires and Sequels, 1450–1930*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1997.
- Burkholder, Mark A. and Lyman L. Johnson. *Colonial Latin America*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- Cañizares-Esguerra, Jorge. “New World, New Stars: Patriotic Astrology and the Invention of Indian and Creole Bodies in Colonial Spanish America, 1600–1650.” *American Historical Review* 104, no. 1 (1999): 33–68.
- Lockhart, James and Stuart Schwartz. *Early Latin America: A History of Colonial Spanish America and Brazil*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983.
- Taylor, William B. “Mexico’s Virgin of Guadalupe in the Seventeenth-Century: Hagiography and Beyond.” In *Colonial Saints: Discovering the Holy in the Americas, 1500–1800*, edited by Allan Greer and Jodi Bilinkoff, 277–298. New York and London: Routledge, 2003.
- Williamson, Edwin. *The Penguin History of Latin America*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1992.