

Engl1423.WI07
Winter, 2026
First Essay 25%

For your first essay, due one minute before Midnight, Sunday, Feb. 15, you are to compare and contrast the three genres of non-fiction writing, short fiction (short story) writing, and dramatic writing (plays, that is). The goal you are aiming for is a personal decision of which genre you prefer, and why. The essay should lead you to this goal.

You will be graded on how closely your conclusion (e.g. “In the end, it seems I prefer reading dramatic fiction more than . . . because . . .”) follows from the writing in your essay, as well as how carefully you compose and revise your essay. For the number-heads in class, these two features will each contribute the same amount to the final grade.

The style to use is the MLA in-text citation style.

Remember, you can use some AI if it’ll help you, but you must get my permission first. And also remember that your finished and submitted essay will be run through software built to find AI composition. Don’t cheat, please. Your grade will be 0 (zero) if I or the software catch you cheating, and cheating includes barely using AI but doing so without my prior permission and without crediting the AI with an in-text citation.