



## **College Essay Writer's Lab**

### **Online Course**

**July 6 to July 30, 2020**

Most students struggle with the college essay. Writing a college essay is not like writing an English class assignment. Rather, it's a personal statement that captures who a student is and why they should be considered for college admission. It should be compelling, engaging, and deeply personal. Although only 650 words, to write an essay of this magnitude, students often need to know the methods that have been proven to work in writing an essay that impresses admissions officers.

It's a common misstep for students to wait until the school year starts to begin the college essay. Summer is the perfect time to get this crucial part of the application done -- where there are no class readings, quizzes, and other papers to distract.

### **Course Description**

I designed this course for high school seniors who need help writing their college admissions essays for the fall admissions season. In the College Essay Writer's Lab, your student will learn all the components of writing a compelling and effective college essay. Your student will go through a series of video and live sessions that review topic development, rhetorical and stylistic techniques, consider audience and voice, and practice critical thinking skills. After your student has learned techniques, they will examine sample essays that have worked, and use these learnings to draft a college essay that leaves admissions officers wanting to fight for the student's acceptance.

By the end of the lab, your student will have a completed general essay and be prepared to draft supplemental essays for college applications.

### **How The Course Works**

After you register your student, they will receive access to a library of video lessons, assignments, worksheets, and sample student essays. Each week your student will:

1. **Watch a pre-recorded video lesson** to learn an essay writing concept.



2. **Complete an assignment** to apply the concept to the college essay.
3. **Attend a live session** to reinforce the concept, check understanding, and get real-time feedback and benefit of peer review. Live sessions last approximately 90-minutes. Live sessions will be offered two times per week, but your student will only be expected to attend one. If a session is missed, it will be uploaded into their account. I will remind each student 24-hours and 2-hours before I go live for each session.

### **Live Session Dates and Times**

Sessions are held 2x weekly. Session times are 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

- Week 1: Monday, July 6 and Thursday, July 9
- Week 2: Monday, July 13 and Thursday, July 16
- Week 3: Monday, July 20 and Thursday, July 23
- Week 4: Monday, July 27 and Thursday, July 30

### **Week-By-Week Overview**

#### **Week 1: Brainstorm**

- Video Lesson #1: Choosing a Topic that Showcases Your TALENTS
- Brainstorming Worksheet
- Live Session #1: Monday, July 6 OR Thursday, July 9

#### **Week 2: Write**

- Video Lesson #2: Structuring Your Essay
- Writing Your First Draft Worksheet
- Live Session #2: Monday, July 13 OR Thursday, July 16

#### **Week 3: Revise**

- Video Lesson #3: How to Revise Your Essay
- Revising Your Essay Worksheet
- Live Session #3: Monday, July 20 OR Thursday, July 23



**Week 4: Final Touches**

- Video Lesson #4: How to Polish Your Essay
- Finalizing Your Stand Out College Essay
- Live Session #4: Monday, July 27 OR Thursday, July 30

**BONUS RESOURCES to review at anytime throughout or after the course:**

- Guide to College Admissions
- Step-by-Step Guide to Creating "I" Activity Statements
- Admissions Officers Email Templates
- Student Resume Template
- Career Planning Map