

**Final Draft Due:**  
**Rough Draft Due:**  
**Outline Due:**

**English 575**  
**Professor Utsler**

# PROJECT ONE



## AUDIENCE: YOUR READERS

Direct: A specific group of Chaffey College students  
Indirect: Professor Utsler and other English department faculty

## PURPOSE: YOUR REASONS FOR WRITING

Direct: To persuade readers to visit or to avoid a specific public location of your choice / To share your unique perspective, experiences, and knowledge of this location / To show readers this location through your word choices  
Indirect: To show your ability to write an effective college essay

## GENRE: YOUR FORMAT

Academic Essay: Your college essay is expected to feature an introductory paragraph, four or more body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph.  
Publication: Students may choose to submit their essays for possible publication. Professor Utsler's website, [www.writingintheie.info](http://www.writingintheie.info), is one option.

## Crediting Sources

If you use any source material, you must credit it correctly. For a review of the plagiarism policy, refer to the syllabus. Remember that you are responsible for avoiding academic dishonesty while a student at Chaffey College. Please see Professor Utsler if you have questions.

## MLA Format

The final draft of your essay must be typed and formatted according to MLA requirements.

### Assessment Questions

1. To what extent is the title engaging and appropriate?
2. To what extent does the first paragraph prepare readers for the thesis statement? To what extent does the introduction promote interest, so they desire to read further?
3. To what extent does the introduction feature an effective thesis statement? Is the thesis statement included at the end of the introductory paragraph?
4. To what extent does each body paragraph feature an effective topic sentence? Is each topic sentence placed at the beginning of each body paragraph? (If not, provide a second page with explanations of your choices for topic sentence placement.)
5. To what extent does each body paragraph feature effective uses of supporting details? To what extent does the writer show readers this location through uses of specific, concrete details?
6. To what extent does each body paragraph remain focused?
7. To what extent does the essay feature effective uses of exemplification, description, and narration?
8. To what extent does the essay feature an effective conclusion?
9. To what extent does the essay feature effective uses of transitions?
10. To what extent do errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, and/or word choice distract from the writer's effective communication of ideas?
11. To what extent does the essay reflect appropriate attention to audience, purpose, genre, and tone?
12. To what extent does the writer contribute a unique perspective to the literature written about this specific location? To what extent do readers gain a new perspective about this location from reading this essay?

### Traps to Avoid

1. Choosing a general location  
(A good guideline: The location should have a specific address. Las Vegas, for example, is too general. The Bellagio in Las Vegas features a specific address.)
2. Choosing a location you do not know well and/or do not have an easy ability to visit
3. Using source information to substitute for your own knowledge and perspective
4. Using source information without crediting it (resulting in a failing grade for plagiarism)
5. Telling instead of showing / Remaining very general in focus and message
6. Choosing a very informal tone / word choices
7. Not taking enough time to generate ideas, draft, revise and edit
8. Forgetting to print and bring drafts to class for test reader review
9. Forgetting to bring your essay materials to each class session
10. Picking a subject of little personal interest to you