WRITE ON! Writing the University Level Essay

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This micro-seminar introduces students to the basics of writing essays at the University level.

What follows is a brief glimpse into just a few of the topics we will discuss:
-- Cultivating an awareness of your intended audience. Thinking about different audiences, including the academic discourse community, professional audiences, and the general public.
-- Why the five-paragraph essay is ‘the bad four-letter word’ at the University Level! Some important differences between high-school and college level writing.
-- The act of writing as “epistemic,” or knowledge-producing; writing as a way not just of reporting but as an important tool for discovering
-- Writing as a way of clarifying and developing ideas
-- Cultivating beneficial habits of reading and research such as planning the steps or stages of a writing project, taking careful notes, and keeping track of source citations.
-- Recognizing and valuing the creativity, independent thinking, and intellectual risk-taking involved in effective university level writing.
-- Developing ideas through the analysis of evidence and the critical use of sources.
-- Organizing ideas coherently and compellingly.
-- Recognizing and contending with concessions and counter-arguments.
-- Defining worthy and compelling issues to write about.
-- Expressing ideas in clear, cogent sentences while...
-- Regarding writing as a form of critical thinking rather than merely the achievement of sentence-level correctness.