

# Essay Writing

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## **Introduction**

Have you ever thought about attending courses but you are worried about having to put your answers into an essay, assignment or completing a workbook? Have you attended courses already and felt that you would like to improve your essay writing skills? This course will concentrate on developing those skills. You will be introduced to the essay writing process; from understanding the initial question to the planning process, leading to essay requirements such as referencing and writing in the correct format. Finally, you will produce a short essay of your own.

## **What will you learn?**

- To understand questions and terminology such as explain, compare, discuss.
- To be able to plan an essay.
- To research information and produce a bibliography.
- To be able to produce an essay.

## **Who is this course aimed at?**

The “Essay Writing” course is part of the “Skills for Learning” programme which has been designed to help anyone who wants to develop their academic skills for continuing on in further education. This programme is also ideal for those who wish to develop and/or enhance their skills when completing workbooks in other areas such as Stepping Stones, Access and professional courses. These skills will also be invaluable in the workplace.

## **What are the entry requirements? (If applicable)**

*This is a Level 2 course so people will need to have a previous achievement at level 1 in English and/or an ability to work at Level 2 in English.*

*You will be required to take a Numeracy and Literacy initial assessment.*

## **How is it taught?**

You will be guided through the learning in a supportive and engaging way. You will work with the tutor and other students in order to develop your essay writing skills. There will be the opportunity to work in pairs/groups as well as taking part in interesting classroom discussions. Students are encouraged to support each other. On the course, you will be expected to produce a written or word processed essay.

## **How will you be assessed?**

You will be assessed by participating in group discussions, paired work and written assessment.

Your course tutor marks the portfolio of work which is then internally and externally moderated by the Open College Network.

**What will you achieve?**

All courses in the “Skills for Learning” programme enable people to achieve credits towards the “Level 2 Certificate in Progression.” By completing the “Essay Writing” course you achieve 4 credits at level 2 which go towards this qualification.

**What can you do after this?**

Skills for Learning is a group of courses that complement each other so working through them all or attending a number of courses would be extremely beneficial to you. This course will equip you with the skills required to confidently write an essay or complete a course workbook.

You can choose a personalised combination of courses from the “Skills for Learning” area and from other courses included on the Progression Pathway in order to find a suite of courses that suit your interests and help to develop your skills. Successful completion of a number of courses allows you to accumulate the required number of credits in order to achieve the Level 2 Certificate in Progression. Following a pathway will help you get the most out of coming to Fircroft College.

**When does it run?**

This is a three day course which includes two nights residency at the College. Courses start at 5.00pm on the first day and finish at around 3 pm on the third day. Please check our website or short course guide for course dates. Alternatively you can contact our Short Course office.

**Is there a cost?**

For information on course fees please visit our website at [www.fircroft.ac.uk](http://www.fircroft.ac.uk) or contact the short course office on 0121 472 0116.

**How can you apply?**

For more information please contact the short course office on 0121 472 0116 or email [shortcourses@fircroft.ac.uk](mailto:shortcourses@fircroft.ac.uk). You can apply online at [www.fircroft.ac.uk](http://www.fircroft.ac.uk), by post or in person.