

Alternate Assignments for Students



The following are some sample assignments developed by Stockton University professor and TWC liaison, Michael Rodriguez, for his students attending TWC's Virtual Internship Program. These assignments were offered for students who needed additional work to make up for reduced contact hours at their internship. Feel free to repurpose these assignments for your students.

Write an Essay on the Coronavirus (8 full-pages)

Write an essay in which you evaluate how the United States responded, or failed to respond, to the coronavirus outbreak. This assignment has 2 parts:

Part 1: Go to the websites of four think tanks in Washington, DC. When you get to their homepage type in "coronavirus" and use one item from each think tank on the coronavirus. I leave it to you to select the item you want to use from each think tank. This part of the essay should be approximately 4 pages, roughly one page for each of the following think tanks:

1. The Heritage Foundation - conservative
2. The Brookings Institute - centrist
3. The Center for American Progress - liberal
4. The Cato Institute - libertarian

Part 2: Watch the documentary on PBS Frontline: Coronavirus Pandemic. After watching the documentary, write four pages of the essay on what you learned from the documentary.

The essay should be 8 full pages, four pages should be devoted to the think tanks and approximately four pages should be devoted to a discussion of the PBS Frontline documentary.

Write an Essay on a Public Official's response to the Coronavirus

Identify one important figure in the current crisis regarding the coronavirus outbreak (e.g. the president, a national public health official, a governor, or celebrity) and write the essay on what this person is doing to address the crisis.

Civic Engagement Project (3-page Reflection)

Write an essay on an organization that is responding to the coronavirus outbreak - either in DC, nationally, or internationally (e.g. the Red Cross, the CDC, the World Health Organization, a local church or community organization).





Please feel free to reach out to TWC for further alternative assignment suggestions.

Washington D.C. Museum Blogs

Throughout the semester students are required to write four 250-word blogs based on museum exhibitions in Washington D.C.

In each of the four blogs students identify the exhibition by name, give a general description, and include general observations about the exhibition, e.g. what did you learn that stayed with you? What did you enjoy the most about the items in the exhibition? Was there anything about the exhibition that you did not like?

If students want to write more than 4 blogs they are welcome to do so, but the minimum requirement is 4 blogs.

These blogs were posted on the Stockton website.

Generally students visit the museums in person, if unable to due to the Coronavirus, students can still do the assignment by visiting online exhibitions. They can use the following online exhibitions:

- **The Outwin 2019: American Portraiture Today:** <https://npg.si.edu/exhibition/outwin-2019-american-portraiture-today>
- **Recent acquisitions:** <https://npg.si.edu/exhibition/recent-acquisitions-2>
- **America's Presidents:** <https://americaspresidents.si.edu/gallery>
- **National Gallery of Art Online Exhibitions:** <https://www.nga.gov/research/online-editions/american-paintings-1900-1945.html> (pick one artist)

