



College Essay Writing Workshop

The college essay gives students a chance to showcase themselves in a personal way that goes beyond what admissions officers can already see on a student's "college resume," but writing it can be an intimidating process.

Parents, counselors, and advisors often hear the common refrain, "Where do I start?" Worrying about the essay can dominate the first crucial weeks of the senior year, distracting students from focusing on the November 1st deadline, when grades for early application are sent off to colleges. This is one of the reasons the Pulsifer College Counseling Center requires students to submit a draft of a college essay to their college counselor in August, ensuring that some of the work gets done prior to the start of school.

This summer, as a special service to rising seniors, Thayer Academy will offer three college essay writing workshops in June and July, so that students may write their essays ahead of time, and thus focus on academics and the rest of the college application process during the busy fall term. The June workshop is over Zoom whereas the July workshops are on campus.

Each workshop is divided into two sessions. The first covers the basics of the college essay: why it's important and how to get started. Students leave that session with some good topic ideas, initial brainstorming notes, and greater overall confidence in how to draft. They also receive a "How To" guide to aid them in the writing process. The second session - held roughly a week later - consists of individual conferences with a Thayer English teacher and/or college counselor to review one or two potential essays students have drafted in the interim. The goal? For students to have a strong college essay ready to go by the beginning of the school year.

WORKSHOP DATES

Workshop #1: Mon, 6/21 and Mon, 6/28 from 10 AM - 12 PM ***Over Zoom**

Workshop #2: Tues, 7/8 and Tues, 7/15 from 2 PM - 4 PM ***On Campus**

Workshop #3: Wed, 7/21 and Wed, 7/28 from 5 PM - 7 PM ***On Campus**

Note: The second day of each workshop will not require the full-time commitment as the objective is for each student to have a brief one-on-one appointment with a teacher. In fact, in some cases, students may be able to schedule their teacher feedback session on a different day if necessary.

If you are interested in one of these workshops (the content is identical in all three), please [click here to register](#). You will receive further instructions after you submit your choice.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Woods (cwoods@thayer.org).