

Summer Short Essay Instructions

For your summer project, you will read two essays entitled “Strive We Must” and “The Lost Art of Cooperation” from the *Wilson Quarterly* journal. Considering the arguments made in each essay and drawing on your knowledge of world and/or American history, write **a short essay of no more than 400 words** in response to the following question:

Discuss whether competition or cooperation is more essential in the development of a successful society. Cite to each essay at least once and provide at least one historical example in your analysis.

Your essay must be typed and double-spaced in 12-point Times or Times New Roman font with one-inch margins. You do not need to formally cite the essays in MLA format, but you can informally incorporate the source into your analysis (e.g. “According to Benjamin Barber...”). Your name should appear only in the header, where it should be right justified. **Your essay is due on the first day of class in the 2026-27 school year.**

The purpose of the essay is to gauge your writing and critical thinking skills, both individually and in the aggregate. The score will count as your first homework/in-class assignment grade for the fall semester.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding your assignment. I look forward to reading your work and seeing you in class next year!

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