California State University Chico
University Writing Center

Prompt Breakdown

Sometimes essays can be overwhelming…Prompt breakdown helps to break essays into smaller chunks and sets you up for success!

Prompt (instructions/ requirements from essay):	
Page/Word Count Limit:	
Citation Style:	
What type of essay will you be writing (ie lit review, persuasive essay, research paper, etc)?	
What do you think the thesis will need to cover, in order to satisfy the prompt?	

Examples:

1. Using any of the readings we've done so far, identify a central theme relevant to mental health and discuss how the author conveys that idea. This essay should be 2-3 pages in length and in MLA format.
   - 2-3 pages in length (double-spaced or single-spaced)?
   - MLA style
   - Expository essay
   - The thesis should point out both the reading you chose and the theme it conveys

2. Choose a dataset and demonstrate an understanding of 2 inferential statistical tests. Follow a scientific format for your paper (6-8 pages). Your background review needs to provide the basic info regarding your theoretical perspective and/or hypotheses (8-10 peer-reviewed sources, style guide of your choice).
   - 6-8 pages in length (double-spaced or single-spaced)
   - I can choose the style guide
   - Literature review for background review/theoretical perspective and research paper for hypotheses/statistical tests
   - The thesis should outline the current relevance of the dataset and research hypotheses