

# The Learning Centre

## Essay Checklist

### Introduction

Clearly expresses the *topic*, *focus* and *scope* of your essay.

*Engages reader* by using an interesting analogy, startling statistic, intriguing quotation or other captivating technique.

*Thesis statement* clearly proposes the main argument or point of view of the essay.

### Body Paragraphs

*Topic sentence* clearly states the central point in each paragraph.

Clear *paragraph focus* -- one distinct point per paragraph.

*Develops paragraph* using specific examples, in-depth analysis, compare and contrast analogies, quotations, etc.

Demonstrate *cohesion* and strong *connections* by:

Integrating transitional words and phrases.

Referring to the central thesis/argument or introducing the next point at the end of a few paragraphs.

For *Research Essay*:

Paragraph points well supported with quotes and paraphrases from research.

All quotes, paraphrases, and summaries are correctly cited using APA, MLA or Chicago Style (per assignment).

Essay includes thoroughly documented *Works Cited* or *References* page using specified documentation style.

### Conclusion

Continues to engage and expand *critical thinking* already present in essay.

*Provides closure* while