Dawson College

**Opinion-Editorial Assignment – 15%**

**Due by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Late assignment rule*

**Theme: Electoral Reform in Canada**

Format

* Submit **on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **350 to 450 words** (including title)
* Double spaced
* MLA Format (Half Cover Page)
* Minimum of 5 paragraphs (including introduction and conclusion)
* You NEED a **title** (part of getting the readers’ attention)
* French or English (same number of words)

Example:

* Why Fix What Is Not Broken? (Defending status quo)
* Proportional Representation Now! (Defending reform)
* First Man Past The Post (Representation issue of FPTP)
* Why Not Dream of Direct Democracy? (Alternative angle)
* An Argument to Reform DSU Elections (Alternative angle))

Remember:

* One Big Idea
* It is Okay to use “I.” Anecdotes and personal experiences can be a strong strategy
* Use statistics or data if appropriate
* [Embed](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J63yPl4BGH4) your sources. No Works Cited Section.
* Short sentences
* Short paragraphs
* Think about your Audience: Inform students? For all Canadians?
* The Hook (the title and first few sentences) is very important.

**View Grading Grid Next Page**

**GRADING**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grading Category** | **Comments** | **Grade** |
| **Hook & Introduction**  First paragraph is compelling, attracts readers attention / Thesis is clear, the lead is evident and not buried. |  | /5 |
| **Coherence**  Respects the op-ed style and format. The op-ed put forward one BIG idea, is a coherent whole, ideas flow well from one to another. |  | /5 |
| **Arguments**  Strength and clarity of arguments. Examples, anecdotes, statistics, and/or personal touch added when necessary |  | /4 |
| **Wrapping it up**  Last paragraph is compelling, brings the op-ed “full circle” |  | /4 |
| **Grammar, punctuation, word count, presentation.** |  | /2 |
| Total |  | /20 |