

# how to write the unc supplemental essays

## How to Write the UNC Supplemental Essays: A Detailed Guide

**how to write the unc supplemental essays** is a question many prospective students ask when preparing their applications for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. These supplemental essays are a crucial part of your application because they provide an opportunity to showcase your personality, values, and fit for UNC beyond your grades and test scores. Crafting thoughtful, authentic responses can make a significant difference in how admissions officers perceive you. In this article, we'll dive into strategies and tips to help you navigate the UNC supplemental essay prompts effectively.

## Understanding the Purpose of UNC Supplemental Essays

Before jumping into writing, it's important to grasp why UNC requires these essays. Unlike the general Common Application or Coalition Application essays, supplemental essays are designed to assess specific qualities that align with UNC's values and community. They want to know what motivates you, how you think, and what unique perspectives you'll bring to their campus.

Admissions officers look for authenticity, clarity, and insight. They want essays that reveal who you are as a person, your passions, and your ability to contribute meaningfully to the UNC community. Keeping this in mind helps you approach your writing with intention rather than simply trying to guess what they want to hear.

## Breaking Down the UNC Supplemental Essay Prompts

Each year, UNC updates its supplemental prompts, but they often follow similar themes focused on community, personal growth, and academic interests. Generally, you can expect:

### 1. The "Why UNC?" Essay

This prompt asks you to explain why UNC is the right fit for you. It's your chance to demonstrate that you've done your homework about the school and show how UNC's offerings align with your goals.

### 2. Personal Insight or Diversity Essay

Here, you might be asked to reflect on a meaningful experience, a challenge you've overcome, or how your background shapes your perspective. This is an opportunity to highlight your individuality and resilience.

### **3. Academic or Extracurricular Interests**

Some prompts invite you to discuss your academic passions or extracurricular involvements. This helps UNC understand how you'll engage with the campus academically and socially.

## **How to Write the UNC Supplemental Essays Effectively**

Writing a standout supplemental essay requires more than just answering the prompt. Here are some key strategies to help you craft compelling responses.

### **Do Your Research**

One of the most important steps is to thoroughly research UNC—its programs, campus culture, values, and recent initiatives. Look into specific departments, clubs, study abroad opportunities, or community service projects that excite you. Mentioning these specifics in your essay shows genuine interest and helps your response stand out.

### **Be Authentic and Personal**

Admissions officers read thousands of essays, so authenticity is your greatest asset. Share stories and reflections that genuinely represent who you are. Avoid clichés or generic statements. Instead, focus on unique experiences or insights that reveal your character and motivations.

### **Address the Prompt Directly**

Make sure every sentence contributes to answering the prompt. Stay focused and avoid going off on tangents. Clear, concise writing paired with a direct approach will make your essay easier to read and more impactful.

### **Show, Don't Just Tell**

Rather than simply stating qualities like leadership or resilience, illustrate them through anecdotes or examples. For instance, instead of saying "I am a leader," describe a situation where you led a team or initiated a project and what you learned from it.

### **Highlight Fit and Contribution**

Universities want to admit students who will thrive and contribute to their community. Use your

essays to show how you align with UNC's values and how you plan to engage on campus. Whether that's through academic pursuits, service work, or extracurriculars, make it clear that you're ready to be an active member of the Tar Heel community.

## Common Pitfalls to Avoid in UNC Supplemental Essays

Knowing what not to do can be just as important as knowing what to do. Here are some common mistakes to steer clear of:

- **Being too vague:** Avoid general statements that could apply to any school. Tailor your essay specifically to UNC.
- **Overusing clichés:** Phrases like "I want to make a difference" without backing them up with specific examples can feel empty.
- **Ignoring word limits:** Stay within the prescribed word count to show you can communicate effectively and respect guidelines.
- **Repeating your Common App essay:** Use the supplemental essays to share new stories or insights rather than rehashing what you've already written.
- **Neglecting proofreading:** Typos and grammatical errors can detract from your message and give a careless impression.

## Tips for Revising and Polishing Your UNC Supplemental Essays

After you write your first draft, take time to revise carefully. Here are some tips to enhance your essays:

### Read Aloud

Hearing your essay out loud can help you catch awkward phrasing or sentences that don't flow well. It also ensures your voice sounds natural and conversational.

### Seek Feedback

Ask teachers, counselors, or trusted friends to review your essays. They can provide valuable perspectives on clarity, tone, and content. Be open to constructive criticism and willing to make

improvements.

## Check for Consistency

Make sure your essay aligns with the rest of your application in terms of tone and message. Your supplemental essays should complement your overall story, not contradict it.

## Focus on Strong Openings and Closings

Grab the reader's attention from the first sentence and leave a lasting impression with a memorable conclusion. This helps keep admissions officers engaged and makes your essay more impactful.

## Examples of Strong Approaches to UNC Supplemental Essays

To illustrate how to write the UNC supplemental essays effectively, consider these approaches:

- **For the “Why UNC?” prompt:** Instead of a generic statement like “UNC has a great business program,” you might write about a specific professor’s research that excites you or a unique internship opportunity in Chapel Hill that aligns with your career goals.
- **For personal insight prompts:** Share a transformative experience, such as volunteering in your community, and reflect on how it shaped your values and ambitions.
- **For academic interests:** Describe a project or class that sparked your passion for a subject and link it to academic resources at UNC that will help you deepen your knowledge.

These examples underscore the importance of specificity, personal reflection, and connection to UNC’s resources.

## Final Thoughts on How to Write the UNC Supplemental Essays

Writing the UNC supplemental essays is more than just completing an application requirement—it’s an opportunity to tell your story in a way that resonates with the admissions committee. By researching UNC thoroughly, reflecting deeply on your experiences, and writing authentically, you can create essays that not only answer the prompts but also highlight your unique voice and potential as a Tar Heel.

Remember, the goal is to demonstrate who you are and why UNC is the perfect place for you to grow academically and personally. Take your time with the process, be honest, and let your passion shine through. The effort you put into your supplemental essays can set you apart and open the door to an incredible college experience at UNC.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are UNC supplemental essays and why are they important?**

UNC supplemental essays are additional short essays required by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as part of their application process. They are important because they allow the admissions committee to learn more about the applicant's personality, interests, and fit with the university beyond grades and test scores.

### **How can I start my UNC supplemental essay to make a strong impression?**

Start your UNC supplemental essay with a compelling hook such as a personal anecdote, a thought-provoking question, or a vivid description that relates to the essay prompt. This grabs the reader's attention and sets the tone for the rest of the essay.

### **What topics are commonly asked in UNC supplemental essays?**

Common topics include your reasons for choosing UNC, how you plan to contribute to the campus community, your academic interests, and experiences that shaped your character or goals.

### **How long should UNC supplemental essays be?**

UNC supplemental essays typically have word limits ranging from 150 to 250 words. It is important to follow the specific word count guidelines provided by UNC to ensure your essay is concise and focused.

### **How can I effectively showcase my personality in the UNC supplemental essays?**

Use specific examples and personal stories that highlight your values, passions, and unique perspectives. Be authentic and honest to help the admissions committee connect with who you really are.

### **Should I mention specific UNC programs or professors in my supplemental essays?**

Yes, mentioning specific programs, courses, professors, or campus organizations shows that you have done your research and have a genuine interest in what UNC offers. Be sure to explain why

these aspects appeal to you.

## **How do I demonstrate my fit with UNC in the supplemental essays?**

Highlight how UNC's values, community, and academic offerings align with your own goals and interests. Discuss how you can contribute to the campus culture and benefit from the opportunities available at UNC.

## **What are common mistakes to avoid when writing UNC supplemental essays?**

Avoid generic responses, repeating information from your main application, ignoring the prompt, and exceeding the word limit. Also, be careful with grammar and spelling errors to maintain a professional tone.

## **How can I revise and improve my UNC supplemental essays before submission?**

After writing your essay, take time to review and revise for clarity, coherence, and impact. Seek feedback from teachers, counselors, or trusted peers, and make sure your essay answers the prompt fully and reflects your authentic voice.

## **Additional Resources**

**\*\*Mastering the Art of How to Write the UNC Supplemental Essays\*\***

**how to write the unc supplemental essays** is a question that many prospective students grapple with as they prepare their applications for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. These essays serve as critical components in the holistic review process, offering applicants a valuable opportunity to showcase their personality, values, and fit with the institution beyond test scores and transcripts. Understanding how to approach these prompts strategically can significantly enhance an applicant's chances of admission.

The UNC supplemental essays are designed not only to assess writing skills but also to evaluate an applicant's alignment with the university's mission and culture. They require a thoughtful balance of introspection, authenticity, and clarity. This article delves into effective strategies for crafting compelling responses, highlights common pitfalls to avoid, and explores the nuances that make these essays stand out in a competitive applicant pool.

## **The Role of UNC Supplemental Essays in the Admissions Process**

Before diving into specific writing techniques, it is essential to contextualize the purpose of these

supplemental essays within UNC's admissions framework. UNC Chapel Hill employs a holistic review process, meaning the admissions committee considers academic achievements, extracurricular involvement, recommendations, and personal essays collectively. The supplemental essays provide a unique window into the applicant's character and potential contributions to the campus community.

Unlike the Common Application personal statement, which tends to be broad and general, UNC's supplemental prompts often encourage more focused reflections that reveal an applicant's individuality in relation to UNC's values and resources. This distinction underscores the importance of tailoring each essay specifically to UNC rather than recycling essays used for other universities.

## **Understanding the Current UNC Supplemental Essay Prompts**

Each admissions cycle, UNC releases a set of supplemental prompts that vary slightly in wording and focus. However, certain themes consistently emerge, such as community engagement, academic interests, and personal growth. For the 2023-2024 admissions cycle, applicants might encounter prompts like:

- Describe your connection to a community and how it has shaped your identity.
- Explain why you want to pursue your chosen major at UNC.
- Discuss a challenge you have faced and how you overcame it.

These prompts require applicants to reflect deeply and provide specific examples that convey genuine insight. Recognizing the intent behind each question is crucial for crafting responses that resonate with the admissions committee.

## **Strategies for How to Write the UNC Supplemental Essays Effectively**

### **1. Research the University Thoroughly**

One of the foundational steps in how to write the UNC supplemental essays is conducting in-depth research about the university's academic programs, campus culture, and community values. Demonstrating familiarity with UNC's unique offerings—such as its commitment to public service, renowned research initiatives, or vibrant student organizations—enables applicants to tailor their essays authentically.

Rather than generic statements, specific references to UNC's resources or philosophies show the admissions team that the applicant has a genuine interest in becoming part of the Tar Heel community. This level of specificity can distinguish an essay from more superficial submissions.

## **2. Emphasize Personal Growth and Reflection**

UNC's supplemental prompts often encourage introspection, making it essential for applicants to go beyond surface-level descriptions. Reflective writing that explores how experiences have shaped values, perspectives, or aspirations tends to engage readers more effectively.

For instance, if writing about a community connection, rather than merely stating participation in a club or volunteer group, delve into what that experience taught you and how it influenced your worldview or goals. This approach aligns with the university's emphasis on developing well-rounded, socially conscious students.

## **3. Showcase Clear and Concise Storytelling**

In the context of how to write the UNC supplemental essays, effective storytelling plays a pivotal role. Admissions officers often read thousands of essays, so clarity and brevity can make a significant impact. Employing a focused narrative structure—introducing a scenario, illustrating challenges or insights, and concluding with meaningful takeaways—helps maintain reader engagement.

Avoid overly complex language or tangential details. Instead, prioritize vivid but succinct descriptions that bring your experiences to life while underscoring your main message.

## **4. Align Responses with UNC's Mission and Values**

UNC Chapel Hill emphasizes values such as academic excellence, diversity, community service, and leadership. When planning responses, applicants should consider how their stories or interests reflect these principles.

For example, an essay about overcoming adversity can highlight resilience and determination, qualities that resonate with UNC's support for student success. Similarly, discussing a passion for social justice or civic engagement can illustrate alignment with the university's public service mission.

## **5. Edit and Seek Feedback**

Crafting compelling supplemental essays is an iterative process. After drafting responses, applicants should dedicate time to revising for clarity, coherence, and grammar. Peer reviews, guidance from teachers or counselors, and even professional editing services can provide valuable perspectives.

Feedback helps identify areas where the essay may lack focus or fail to convey the intended tone. Polished essays demonstrate a commitment to quality and respect for the admissions process.



# Common Challenges and How to Address Them

Applicants often face specific obstacles when navigating how to write the UNC supplemental essays. One frequent challenge is balancing authenticity with strategic self-presentation. While it is important to highlight strengths, essays that seem overly boastful or insincere may alienate readers. Striving for honesty and humility can mitigate this risk.

Another issue is the temptation to write broad, generic essays that could apply to any university, which undermines the purpose of the supplemental prompts. To overcome this, applicants should integrate details unique to UNC and their own experiences, creating a personalized narrative.

Time management also poses difficulties, especially for students juggling multiple college applications. Starting early and breaking the writing process into manageable stages can alleviate stress and improve the quality of the final product.

## Comparing UNC Supplemental Essays to Other Universities

When compared to supplemental essays from peer institutions such as the University of Virginia or Duke University, UNC's prompts often emphasize community and personal identity in relation to the school's culture. While some universities focus more heavily on academic interests or leadership, UNC balances these with an exploration of broader social connections.

This comparative analysis underscores the need for applicants to customize their essays specifically for UNC, rather than adopting a one-size-fits-all approach. Understanding these subtle differences enhances the effectiveness of each response.

## Technical Considerations for Submitting UNC Supplemental Essays

Applicants should also pay attention to the technical guidelines governing the supplemental essays. UNC typically sets word limits, often around 200-250 words per prompt, which requires concise yet comprehensive answers. Exceeding these limits can signal a lack of attention to instructions.

Additionally, adhering to formatting requirements—such as submitting essays through the Common Application platform or the Coalition Application—is essential to ensure that responses are properly received and reviewed.

## Optimizing the Essays for SEO and Readability

While the primary audience for UNC supplemental essays is human evaluators, understanding the fundamentals of search engine optimization (SEO) can indirectly improve writing quality. Clear, well-structured sentences and the use of relevant keywords related to UNC's values and academic programs enhance readability and coherence.

In a broader context, applicants who maintain focus on key themes and avoid repetition create essays that are more likely to leave a memorable impression, mirroring principles used in effective online content creation.

Throughout the writing process, naturally integrating phrases such as "how to write the UNC supplemental essays," "UNC essay tips," and "University of North Carolina application essay" can reinforce focus and intent without compromising authenticity.

The craft of composing UNC supplemental essays demands a nuanced understanding of the university's culture, a strategic approach to storytelling, and meticulous attention to detail. By embracing these elements, applicants can produce essays that not only fulfill the requirements but also vividly convey their unique narratives within the context of UNC Chapel Hill's community.

## [How To Write The Unc Supplemental Essays](#)

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Write Yourself In** Eric Tipler, 2024-06-11 Write authentic, memorable college essays that will help you get into the right school for you with this guidebook from a veteran college admissions expert. Every spring, over one million high school juniors embark on an annual rite of passage: applying to college. And with college admission rates at an all-time low, getting into a competitive school is now tougher than ever. At the top schools, a strong transcript and great test scores will get your application noticed, but it's your essays, and the personal story that they highlight, that will get you admitted. But often, students don't know where to start. Teens fret over topics because they don't know what college admissions officers are looking for. They bend over backwards to write what they think colleges want to read, instead of telling their authentic story—which is what admissions officers actually want—in a way that will resonate with their readers. They also struggle because college essays, which are narrative, first-person, and introspective require a different set of skills from academic, expository writing they've been learning for years in the classroom. Seasoned college admissions expert and educator Eric Tipler has seen this firsthand. Teens and their parents spend countless, anxiety-filled hours crafting and refining essays that are often lackluster. In *Write Yourself In*, Tipler meets students where they are, and provides comprehensive actionable advice in a warm and conversational tone. He demonstrates how to craft a winning essay, one that is authentic, vulnerable, and demonstrative of qualities like personal growth and emotional maturity. Instead of formulas, *Write Yourself In* gives students step-by-step processes for brainstorming, outlining, writing, and revising essays. It encourages them to seek out feedback at key points in the process, something Tipler has found to be vital to helping students produce their best writing. Further, the book includes sidebars that teach essential components of good storytelling, a "secret weapon" in the admissions process. In addition to the admissions essay, *Write Yourself In* also covers the most common supplemental essays on topics like community, diversity, openness to others' viewpoints, and why their school is a good fit for the student scholarship essays, as well as scholarship essays. Tipler includes sections that address current topics like the widespread use of ChatGPT and the discussion of race in the admissions essay, a facet of the student's application that will have newfound importance given the Supreme Court decision on affirmative action. Written with both the parent and teen in mind, *Write Yourself In* is the go-to handbook for writing a great college essay.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Write Out Loud: Use the Story To College Method, Write Great Application Essays, and Get Into Your Top Choice College** Carol Barash, 2013-09-16 The definitive guide to writing essays for the New Common App--Cover.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Surviving the College Application Process**

Lisa Bleich, 2014-02-01 Does the college application process overwhelm you? Are you unsure about the topic for your main essay or what part of your experience is most compelling? How about which school is the right fit, or how you are going to pay for college? Imagine following eleven students' journeys in-depth, getting into their heads when they made a decision about which extracurricular activities to pursue, which schools to apply to, and which topics to choose for their main essay and supplemental essays. Imagine having a tool that will help you think about your own process in a more strategic way. *Surviving the College Application Process: Case Studies to Help You Find Your Unique Angle for Success* utilizes the College Application Wheel to showcase the successful journeys of eleven different students. You can read all the case studies or just those that resonate with your own circumstances. With the strategies outlined in this book, you will be well on your way to *Surviving the College Application Process*.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Encyclopedia of North Carolina** William S. Powell, 2006 An informative compendium, the *Encyclopedia of North Carolina* is abundantly illustrated with nearly 400 photographs and maps.--BOOK JACKET.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Writing Appalachia** Katherine Ledford, Theresa Lloyd, Rebecca Stephens, 2020-03-17 Despite the stereotypes and misconceptions surrounding Appalachia, the region has nurtured and inspired some of the nation's finest writers. Featuring dozens of authors born into or adopted by the region over the past two centuries, *Writing Appalachia* showcases for the first time the nuances and contradictions that place Appalachia at the heart of American history. This comprehensive anthology covers an exceedingly diverse range of subjects, genres, and time periods, beginning with early Native American oral traditions and concluding with twenty-first-century writers such as Wendell Berry, bell hooks, Silas House, Barbara Kingsolver, and Frank X Walker. Slave narratives, local color writing, folklore, work songs, modernist prose—each piece explores unique Appalachian struggles, questions, and values. The collection also celebrates the significant contributions of women, people of color, and members of the LGBTQ community to the region's history and culture. Alongside Southern and Central Appalachian voices, the anthology features northern authors and selections that reflect the urban characteristics of the region. As one text gives way to the next, a more complete picture of Appalachia emerges—a landscape of contrasting visions and possibilities.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: The Lumbee Indians** Malinda Maynor Lowery, 2018-09-10 Jamestown, the Lost Colony of Roanoke, and Plymouth Rock are central to America's mythic origin stories. Then, we are told, the main characters — the “friendly” Native Americans who met the settlers — disappeared. But the history of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina demands that we tell a different story. As the largest tribe east of the Mississippi and one of the largest in the country, the Lumbees have survived in their original homelands, maintaining a distinct identity as Indians in a biracial South. In this passionately written, sweeping work of history, Malinda Maynor Lowery narrates the Lumbees' extraordinary story as never before. The Lumbees' journey as a people sheds new light on America's defining moments, from the first encounters with Europeans to the present day. How and why did the Lumbees both fight to establish the United States and resist the encroachments of its government? How have they not just survived, but thrived, through Civil War, Jim Crow, the civil rights movement, and the war on drugs, to ultimately establish their own constitutional government in the twenty-first century? Their fight for full federal acknowledgment continues to this day, while the Lumbee people's struggle for justice and self-determination continues to transform our view of the American experience. Readers of this book will never see Native American history the same way.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Britain in China** Robert Bickers, 2017-03-01 This is a study of Britain's presence in China both at its peak, and during its inter-war dissolution in the face of assertive Chinese nationalism and declining British diplomatic support. Using archival materials from China and records in Britain and the United States, the author paints a portrait of the traders, missionaries, businessmen, diplomats and settlers who constituted Britain-in-China, challenging our understanding of British imperialism there. Bickers argues that the British presence

in China was dominated by urban settlers whose primary allegiance lay not with any grand imperial design, but with their own communities and precarious livelihoods. This brought them into conflict not only with the Chinese population, but with the British imperial government. The book also analyzes the formation and maintenance of settler identities, and then investigates how the British state and its allies brought an end to the reign of freelance, settler imperialism on the China coast. At the same time, other British sectors, missionary and business, renegotiated their own relationship with their Chinese markets and the Chinese state and distanced themselves from the settler British.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** *American Studies International Newsletter*, 1988

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** **Advanced Fiction** Amy E. Weldon, 2023-08-24

Confident with the basics of your craft? Looking to take your writing to the next level? *Advanced Fiction* gives you the tools to hone your skills by thinking more deeply and systematically about deploying them on the page. Friendly and down-to-earth, Amy Weldon guides you through the realities of craft and process, combining a broad anthology of landmark stories with instruction on the more advanced aspects of fiction writing. Featuring interactive prompts, exercises and suggestions for further reading, this book guides you from larger philosophical issues to subtler technical ones, from topics as diverse as the intricate principles of storytelling to navigating artistic and political landscapes conscientiously and building a writing career. Beginning with a brief recap of the basics, the text goes on to examine: - The psychology of writing and revising - Practical methods for drafting and notebook-keeping - Taking personal and technical risks with ideas, images, and forms - Making responsible decisions about representing identities, bodies, and histories on the page - Complex craft concepts such as world-building, structure, time, and moving from short forms to novels Placing students' own work in conversation with established stories, the accompanying anthology selections range widely in culture, technique and time period, including authors of dystopia, historical fiction, satire, and fiction in translation as well as literary realists tackling themes like economic inequality, climate change, and identity. Thoughtful and essential, this book provides excellent guidance for students and budding authors on the complexities of fiction writing from the beginning of a writing project - short story or novel - to the end.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** *Essays on the American Revolution* Stephen G.

Kurtz, James H. Hutson, 2013-06-01 These eight original essays by a group of America's most distinguished scholars include the following themes: the meaning and significance of the Revolution; the long-term, underlying causes of the war; violence and the Revolution; the military conflict; politics in the Continental Congress; the role of religion in the Revolution; and the effect of the war on the social order. This is the product of the celebrated Symposium on the American Revolution held in 1971 by the institute. Originally published 1973. A UNC Press Enduring Edition — UNC Press Enduring Editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print. These editions are published unaltered from the original, and are presented in affordable paperback formats, bringing readers both historical and cultural value.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** *Work and Labor in Early America* Stephen Innes,

1988 Ten leading scholars of early American social history here examine the nature of work and labor in America from 1614 to 1820. The authors scrutinize work diaries, private and public records, and travelers' accounts. Subjects include farmers, farmwives, ur

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** *Exceptional Spaces* Della Pollock, 2018-06-15

Taking interdisciplinary and diverse approaches, these thirteen essays explore the multifaceted relationship between performance and history. By considering performance as both a useful frame for understanding historical practices and a mode of historical production itself--performance in history and performance as history--the contributors chart new directions in such fields as cultural studies, contemporary historiography, museum studies, and life narrative research. Geographically and chronologically, the collection's sweep is broad--ranging from the nineteenth century to the present, from Victorian theater to commissions of inquiry in Kenya, from dissent in post-Soviet Lithuania to plantation tours in the American South. Together, the essays make up a work that is

truly interdisciplinary in breadth and focus. By combining the methodologies of history and performance studies, the contributors illuminate the structure and function of cultural production in all its forms. The contributors are Michael S. Bowman, Ruth Laurion Bowman, Elizabeth Gray Buck, Kay Ellen Capo, David William Cohen, Tracy Davis, Kirk W. Fuoss, Shannon Jackson, D. Soyini Madison, Carol Mavor, E. S. Atieno Odhiambo, Della Pollock, Jeffrey H. Richards, and Joseph R. Roach.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Frederick Douglass and Herman Melville**

Robert S. Levine, Samuel Otter, 2012-09-01 Frederick Douglass (1818-1895) and Herman Melville (1819-1891) addressed in their writings a range of issues that continue to resonate in American culture: the reach and limits of democracy; the nature of freedom; the roles of race, gender, and sexuality; and the place of the United States in the world. Yet they are rarely discussed together, perhaps because of their differences in race and social position. Douglass escaped from slavery and tied his well-received nonfiction writing to political activism, becoming a figure of international prominence. Melville was the grandson of Revolutionary War heroes and addressed urgent issues through fiction and poetry, laboring in increasing obscurity. In eighteen original essays, the contributors to this collection explore the convergences and divergences of these two extraordinary literary lives. Developing new perspectives on literature, biography, race, gender, and politics, this volume ultimately raises questions that help rewrite the color line in nineteenth-century studies. Contributors: Elizabeth Barnes, College of William and Mary Hester Blum, The Pennsylvania State University Russ Castronovo, University of Wisconsin-Madison John Ernest, West Virginia University William Gleason, Princeton University Gregory Jay, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Carolyn L. Karcher, Washington, D.C. Rodrigo Lazo, University of California, Irvine Maurice S. Lee, Boston University Robert S. Levine, University of Maryland, College Park Steven Mailloux, University of California, Irvine Dana D. Nelson, Vanderbilt University Samuel Otter, University of California, Berkeley John Stauffer, Harvard University Sterling Stuckey, University of California, Riverside Eric J. Sundquist, University of California, Los Angeles Elisa Tamarkin, University of California, Irvine Susan M. Ryan, University of Louisville David Van Leer, University of California, Davis Maurice Wallace, Duke University Robert K. Wallace, Northern Kentucky University Kenneth W. Warren, University of Chicago

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** *The Numismatist*, 1957 Vols. 24-52 include the proceedings of the A.N.A. convention. 1911-39.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays:** *The Merchant in German Literature of the Enlightenment* John W. Van Cleve, 2020-05-01 John Van Cleve analyzes the influence of the merchant class on what Leo Balet termed the *Verburgerlichung* (the 'becoming middle-class') of German literature during the eighteenth century. He describes the origins and development of the class and examines its successive images in works by Haller, Schnabel, Borkenstein, Luise Gottsched, J. E. Schlegel, Gellert, and Lessing. Between the years 1729 and 1750, merchants were better able to lend financial support to the literary world than were civil servants and professionals. Although merchants were central in the cultural life of the German states, they were usually less educated than other members of their social stratum and therefore less disposed to literature. Tradition has cast the merchant class in a highly unflattering light as ethically indefensible. Van Cleve's in-depth analysis traces the evolution of attitudes toward merchants from negative, underdeveloped images to positive, heroic portrayals.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: The Power of Objects in Eighteenth-Century British America** Jennifer Van Horn, 2017-02-23 Over the course of the eighteenth century, Anglo-Americans purchased an unprecedented number and array of goods. *The Power of Objects in Eighteenth-Century British America* investigates these diverse artifacts—from portraits and city views to gravestones, dressing furniture, and prosthetic devices—to explore how elite American consumers assembled objects to form a new civil society on the margins of the British Empire. In this interdisciplinary transatlantic study, artifacts emerge as key players in the formation of Anglo-American communities and eventually of American citizenship. Deftly interweaving analysis of

images with furniture, architecture, clothing, and literary works, Van Horn reconstructs the networks of goods that bound together consumers in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. Moving beyond emulation and the desire for social status as the primary motivators for consumption, Van Horn shows that Anglo-Americans' material choices were intimately bound up with their efforts to distance themselves from Native Americans and African Americans. She also traces women's contested place in forging provincial culture. As encountered through a woman's application of makeup at her dressing table or an amputee's donning of a wooden leg after the Revolutionary War, material artifacts were far from passive markers of rank or political identification. They made Anglo-American society.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: God's Sacred Tongue** Shalom Goldman, 2015-01-01 In a comprehensive examination of how Christian scholars in the United States received, interpreted, and understood Hebrew texts and the Jewish experience, Shalom Goldman explores Hebraism's relationship to American society. By linking history, theology, and literature from the colonial period through the twentieth century, Goldman illuminates the religious and cultural roots of American interest in the Middle East. God's Sacred Tongue is structured around a sequence of biographical and intellectual portraits of individuals including Jonathan Edwards, Isaac Nordheimer, Professor George Bush (an ancestor of President George W. Bush), and twentieth-century literary critic Edmund Wilson. Since the colonial period, America has been perceived as a western Promised Land with emotional, spiritual, and physical links to the Promised Land of biblical history. Goldman gives evidence from scholarship, diplomacy, journalism, the history of higher education, and the arts to show that this perception is linked to the role Hebrew and the Bible have played in American cultural history. The book's final section takes up the story of American Christian Zionism, among whose Protestant adherents political Zionism found much of its strongest support. Religious and cultural figures such as William Rainey Harper and Reinhold Niebuhr are among those who exemplify the centuries-old ties between America, the Land of Promise, and Israel, the Promised Land.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Britain in China** Robert A. Bickers, 1999 This is a study of Britain's presence in China both at its peak, and during its inter-war dissolution in the face of assertive Chinese nationalism and declining British diplomatic support. Using archival materials from China and records in Britain and the United States, the author paints a portrait of the traders, missionaries, businessmen, diplomats and settlers who constituted Britain-in-China, challenging our understanding of British imperialism there. Bickers argues that the British presence in China was dominated by urban settlers whose primary allegiance lay not with any grand imperial design, but with their own communities and precarious livelihoods. This brought them into conflict not only with the Chinese population, but with the British imperial government. The book also analyzes the formation and maintenance of settler identities, and then investigates how the British state and its allies brought an end to the reign of freelance, settler imperialism on the China coast. At the same time, other British sectors, missionary and business, renegotiated their own relationship with their Chinese markets and the Chinese state and distanced themselves from the settler British.

**how to write the unc supplemental essays: Aristophanes' Old-and-New Comedy** Kenneth J. Reckford, 2017-10-06 This startling and original study emerged from Kenneth Rockford's wish to vindicate Aristophanes' Clouds against detractors. As a result of years of rereading and teaching Aristophanes, he realized that the Clouds could not be defended in an analysis of that play in isolation. A better approach, he decided, would be to define a comic perspective within which Aristophanes' comedies in general as well as the Clouds in particular could be appreciated. This first volume of Reckford's defense examines the comedies as a whole in a series of defining essays, each with its own dominant concern and method of approach. The author begins by exploring not the usual questions of Aristophanes' political attitudes and his place in the development of comedy, but rather the festive, celebratory, and Dionysian nature of Old Comedy. Here and throughout the book Reckford illustrates Aristophanes' form of comedy with analogies to Rabelais, Shakespeare, Charlie Chaplin, Alice in Wonderland, and The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. In the remaining essays Reckford

goes beyond the usual Freudian approaches, reinterpreting the comic catharsis as a clarification of wishing and hoping. He also explores the growth of plays from comic idea to comic performance, in ways reflected in Tom Stoppard's plays today. Only then are Aristophanes' basic political loyalties described, as well as the place of his old- and-new comedy within the history of the genre. In a book that is as much about comedy generally as it is about Aristophanes specifically, some plays are treated more fully than others. Reckford discusses the *Wasps* at length, comparing the symbolic transformations and comic recognitions in the play with dream experience and dream interpretation. He also analyzes the *Peace*, the *Acharians*, the *Birds*, and the *Frogs*. Reckford's vindication of the *Clouds* will appear in the second volume of his defense, *Clouds of Glory*. Reckford's playful translations preserve the puns and anachronisms of Aristophanes, maintaining the playwright's comic feeling and tone. Combining traditional classical scholarship with a variety of literary, psychological, and anthropological approaches, he has written a study that will appeal to both the academic audience and the general reader who cares about comedy. Originally published in 1987. A UNC Press Enduring Edition -- UNC Press Enduring Editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print. These editions are published unaltered from the original, and are presented in affordable paperback formats, bringing readers both historical and cultural value.

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