**OVERVIEW**

A **Complex assignment** is one that students in the course will complete toward learning a GE Learning outcome. It is possible that a single complex assignment could give instruction in more than one outcome.  A complex assignment is a multi-stage assignment.  It has multiple components that require the instructor to provide formative feedback throughout the assignment completion process.

*In other words, a complex assignment requires students to perform more than one task, and requires the instructor to give students Formative feedback – that is, feedback while students are working on the assignment – as well as Summative feedback, a grade when the assignment is completed****.  However, a complex assignment does not have to be complicated, or extensive, or burdensome for the instructor.***

Below is an *Assignment Shell*, that is, a template for a complex assignment that focuses on the Creative Thinking Learning Outcome.

**CREATIVE THINKING ASSIGNMENT SHELL**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this multi-stage assignment is to enable you to develop and demonstrate your:

Knowledge of a topic in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Creative thinking skills:

* Embracing contradictions by integrating alternate, divergent, or contradictory perspectives or ideas.
* Synthesizing ideas by connecting ideas or solutions in a novel way.
* Engaging in innovative thinking by creating a novel or unique idea, question, idea, or product.

 \***TASKS**

Task 1. Select an artifact (policy issue, math problem, movie, text, painting, etc.) on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Task 2. Learn about different aspects, positions, and interpretations on this artifact.

Task 3. Discuss these divergent perspectives to synthesize them and connect them.

Task 4. Create a debate speech, review for a movie, solution for a problem, question for a research, etc.

\*For each of these task think about activities and ways to provide feedback to students (in class discussion, peer feedback, etc.)

**RUBRIC**

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