**Writing Guidelines**

**Structure:**
We are writing topical essays. Your essay should have an *introduction* and a *conclusion*. The introduction should include a *thesis statement*—your argument reduced to one sentence.

The building blocks of essays are paragraphs. A paragraph represents a distinct step within an argument. There's no rule that a topic sentences must come at the beginning of each paragraph, but that's what readers are used to, and that's what they find easiest to follow. In a good essay, each paragraph should have some logical connection to the one before it.

Careful proofreading and revision are crucial parts of the process of completing any essay.

[A good reference](#)

[An example of good structure](#)

**Wording:**
Choose wording that clearly expresses your ideas. Make sure that the subject and verb match; check number and tense.

**Grading:**
All essays will be graded according to the following *guidelines*.

**Examples from last semester’s EGM 180 class:**

[The Assignment](#)

[Example Thesis Statements for Analysis and Discussion](#)

[Examples of unclear/ungramatical wording](#)