

Now that you're thinking about where you're headed next, it's important to wrap up your learning in this program, with an eye to your future studies.

You will write a self-evaluation. Your essay should be of sufficient quality that you could include it in your transcript. You will submit your self-evaluation to the faculty, but you will decide whether to submit your self-evaluation for your transcript. Future faculty may ask to see your self-evaluation, so this important essay may follow you wherever you will go. For those of you who joined the program in winter quarter, the essay should be between 250 and 350 words long (which will be approximately one third of a page on the self-evaluation template available at my.evergreen.edu). For those of you who were in the program in fall and winter, the essay should be between 350 and 500 words long (which will be approximately two thirds of a page on the self-evaluation template available at my.evergreen.edu).

Your final self-evaluation should include the following, though the narrative structure is up to you:

- **Introduction:** brief description of previous academic or personal experience and your intended learning goals that led you to choose to take this program
- **Descriptions:** specific examples of what you learned or did in the program, especially those where you integrated or synthesized different parts of the program together: critical essays, your fall essay exam, your project (or elements of it), etc.
- **Evaluations:** specific evidence for how well you did the work you've described, such as feedback from faculty or peers, comparing to your own previous work, etc.
- **Reflections:** what your work means to you academically or personally, and the personal or social significance of your learning
- **Conclusion:** your next steps, including plans to address weaknesses and move forward in your personal and academic goals.

The Descriptive, Evaluative, and Reflective pieces are not meant to constrain the structure of your essay, but rather direct you towards things you should address. As always, specific examples are more compelling than general statements.

In the catalog description of our program, we ask the following three questions:

- What does studying art and science reveal about attempts to make sense of the nature of the world and our role in it?
- How can science serve as inspiration for art?
- How can art shape our understanding of science?

Let's consider versions of these questions that reflect what you have been doing for the past 8 or 18 weeks. Free write on one of these three prompts:

- Describe specific examples about what your study of art and science in our program have revealed about attempts to make sense of the nature of the world and our role in it.
- Describe specific examples from your work in our program of how science has served as inspiration for art.
- Describe specific examples from your work in our program of how art has shaped your understanding of science.

Go through and underline the most concrete, compelling sentence. This kind of sentence can be a way of “showing” rather than “telling” something about your learning in your self-evaluation essay.

Here is an exercise to help you tell specific examples about your work, with concrete details.

Fill in the blanks as best you can:

In my most successful essay, I argued/discussed/connected/made the case/etc. _____

The essay was particularly strong in _____

I could have improved the essay by _____

This essay mattered to me/the program/etc. because _____

You’ve taken on many roles in the past few weeks to varying degrees of success; those roles will be important in future work. Those roles include reader, writer, researcher, collaborator, and agent (here someone who articulates and assumes responsibility for their own work).

If you find it productive, you might use a similar exercise with these roles:

I improved as a <<role>> in the following ways _____

by doing the following things _____

I know I did these things well because _____

This is important to me/the program/etc. because _____

I would like to improve as a <<role>> by _____

Return to your free-write responses. Those responses hopefully connected to program content.

A compelling self-evaluation addresses content or outcomes or products. In addressing content or outcomes or products, you can **show** rather than tell your reader what you have learned and how you have improved in your various roles.

How can you transform your free-write response to demonstrate your growth as a reader or writer or researcher or collaborator or agent while still describing content or outcomes or products?