

This I Believe Project

Creative Essay Assignment



Instructions: You will listen to three “This I Believe” podcasts on the NPR website (www.npr.org). The following podcasts are dramatic readings of essays written by all sorts of people about their core values or beliefs. After listening to the following podcasts, you will write your own personal short essay in a similar style and fashion. The essay should be a minimum of 500 words, should use appropriate language, spelling and grammar, and should give insight to at least one of your own core values and beliefs. You should explain why this value is important to you in your life and why you have come to hold that belief so dear. You may also submit your essay as a recorded podcast, if you wish, and you should submit the recording as an mp3 file. The recording is optional, but highly encouraged.

Deadline: Your essay is due back to the Community Standards Assistant, rezrules@uoguelph.ca, by 11:59 pm on the deadline stated in your sanction letter. Please list the title of your assignment in the subject line of your email.

Essays:

***Living with Integrity* – Bob Barret**

Dr. Bob Barret is professor emeritus at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a practicing psychologist. He has written about issues facing people with HIV, and the gay and lesbian experience.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=16832392>

***To Thine Own Self Be True* – Judith Jamison**

Judith Jamison is artistic director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York. She joined the company in 1965, and was its principal dancer for many years. In addition to her choreography and teaching work, Jamison advocates for arts education.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=9249892>

***The Perfection of Character* – Angelina Michetti**

Angelina Michetti is a first-degree black belt in Shotokan karate-do. She began her study of karate at Pennsylvania State University where she received a degree in international business and management. Michetti lives in Herndon, Va.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6352680>

***The Rule of Law* – Michael Mullane**

Michael Mullane is a law professor and director of the Law School Legal Clinic at the University of Arkansas. He has also worked in private practice in Arizona. Born into a military family, Mullane was a Navy aviator during the Vietnam War.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5442573>

***Failure is a Good Thing* – Jon Carroll**

Jon Carroll started at the *San Francisco Chronicle* editing the crossword puzzle and writing TV listings. He has been a columnist for the paper since 1982. Carroll has also held editorial positions at *Rolling Stone*, *The Village Voice* and other magazines.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6196795>

***The Presumption of Decency* – Edward Glaeser**

Edward Glaeser is a professor of economics at Harvard University. His research focuses on urban growth, and the role of cities in fostering and transmitting ideas. Glaeser is also a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, and a columnist for *The New York Sun*.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=15839283>

***The Real Consequences of Justice* – Frederic Reamer**

Frederic Reamer is professor at the School of Social Work at Rhode Island College. His research and teaching explores mental health, criminal justice and professional ethics. Since 1992, Reamer has served on the Rhode Island Parole Board.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4629229>

***A Shared Moment of Trust* – Warren Christopher**

Warren Christopher was U.S. Secretary of State from 1993 to 1997. As President Carter's Deputy Secretary of State, he helped normalize relations with China, win ratification of the Panama Canal treaties, and gain release of the American hostages in Iran.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5165229>

Adapted from: Hoover, Britt Q. *The Guide to Creative and Educational Sanctions for Today's College Students*. The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington.