3.3

Drafting and Preparing to Submit an Essay

Stages of drafting an essay (from Chapter 3, pages 22–3)

Reading and understanding the question \rightarrow identifying the relevant material \rightarrow making an essay plan \rightarrow writing a first draft \rightarrow reviewing the first draft and writing a second draft \rightarrow double-checking the administrative requirements of the essay \rightarrow writing a final version.

Checking your work:

- □ Have I answered the question? What is the question? What is my 'answer'?
- Have I used my own words? Can I express the various ideas and arguments myself?
- □ Have I shown use of social scientific skills such as handling theory and evidence, etc.?
- Does my assignment have a good structure? Is there an introduction, a main body with a series of logically organized points, supporting theory, evidence, etc.?
- Have I checked grammar, punctuation and spelling?
- Have I observed the word limit (where this is specified)?
- □ Have I followed the requirements for referencing?
- □ Have I followed the requirements for formatting, headers, etc.?