

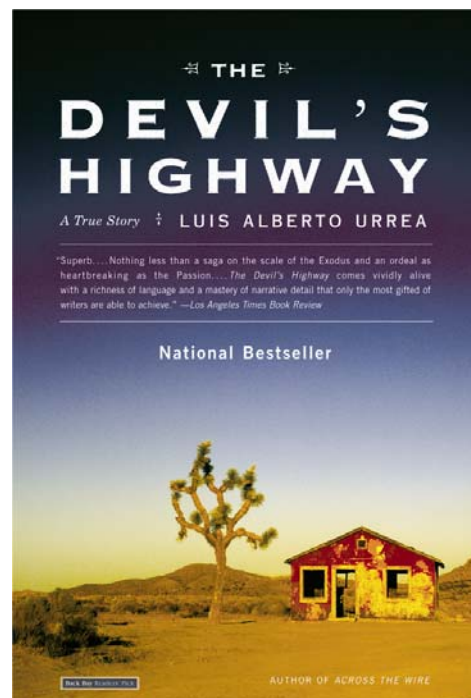
It's all about *your* experience!
\$100 Prize for the*first year*
student winner!



The 2009 Book-in-Common Essay Contest

Create your own *short essay*
response as it relates to Luis
Urrea's story The Devil's Highway.

One first year student winner will
be selected to receive a \$100
scholarship for the spring 2010
semester.



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Deadline for submissions is extended to
Monday, November 30th.
See reverse for details.

Book-in-Common Essay Contest 2009: *The Devil's Highway*

You've read the book, you've learned more about the complex issue of immigration in the US, and now you can share what your experience has been.

Your written reflection should respond to the following question prompt:

In what ways has "The Devil's Highway" and related Book-in-Common programming challenged or confirmed your thinking about immigration? Give specific examples of assumptions, perspectives, or beliefs you held before reading "The Devil's Highway," and compare those to how you think now.

Here are some tips to help guide you through the process:

Be brief: Your reflection can be no longer than **1,000 words**.

Be personal: Make your essay about you; speak in the first person. Edit it and simplify it until you find the words, tone, and story that truly echo your style.

Tell a story: Be specific. Consider moments when your beliefs were formed, tested, or changed, and relay these events. Your story need not be heart-warming or gut-wrenching—it can even be funny—but it should be *real*. Make sure your story ties to what you have experienced through reading, being part of programs and discussions related to the text, etc.

Be specific: If you're having trouble keeping your essay short, consider focusing on one core belief, assumption, or perspective. Don't forget to provide specific examples to illustrate your points.

Be positive: Avoid preaching or editorializing.

Guidelines for Entry

All work should include a cover sheet with the following:

Student's name, title of work, student ID, U of L email address, and phone number

Format for your essay should be double-spaced, one inch margins, Times New Roman font, on 8 ½" X 11" white paper.

Do not include your name on the body of your submission, as judging will be anonymous.

Deadline for submissions is Monday, November 30th by 5pm.

Make it original. The essay must be an entirely original work by the student.

Submit entries by the deadline to:

In person – The REACH Office in Strickler Hall, room 126.

Electronically – Email firstyear@louisville.edu and attach your submission as a Word document. Do not paste entries into the email text.

We will select one First Year student winner to receive a \$100 scholarship.* The winner may be invited to read his/her winning submission at a spring 2010 Book-in-Common event.

*Scholarship will be processed through the Financial Aid Office, per University of Louisville Policy.