** Delta Epsilon Sigma**

**Undergraduate Writing Competition Guidelines**

**\*\*\*Revised for 2024\*\*\***

Delta Epsilon Sigma sponsors an annual writing contest open to any undergraduate (member or nonmember) in an institution which has a chapter of the society. Manuscripts may be submitted in any of five categories: (1) Poetry, (2) Short Fiction, (3) Creative Nonfiction/ Personal Essay,

(4) Critical/Analytical Essay and (5) Scholarly Research. The first place winner in each of the five categories will receive a $500 prize. A second prize of $250 is also sometimes awarded. Winning entries may be selected for publication in the DES Journal.  
  
The first phase of the competition is to be conducted by local chapters, each of which is encouraged to sponsor its own contest. Editorial comment and advice by a faculty mentor is appropriate as an aid preparatory to student revision, so long as all writing is done by the student. A chapter Advisor may forward to the national competition only one entry in each category. ***Please refer to the most recent DES Journal for more detailed guidelines - available on the DES website –*** [***www.deltaepsilonsigma.org***](http://www.deltaepsilonsigma.org)

***Reminder: There is a 5,000-word limit to any submission.*****Cover Sheet Form**

A Cover Sheet document (separate document) must accompany the writing contest entry. **Save the Microsoft Word document as one document with the Cover Sheet form first and then the writing entry**. Please choose one of the five category types that are stated on the Cover Sheet: (1) Poetry, (2) Short Fiction, (3) Creative Nonfiction/ Personal Essay,

(4) Critical/Analytical Essay and (5) Scholarly Research.

The author’s name and institution are not allowed on the Cover Sheet. All writing submission documents may only be submitted in ***Microsoft Word.***

**Contact Information Form**In addition, the Contact Information form needs to be completed. It is a separate document that will not be submitted to the judges. It will be retained by Delta Epsilon Sigma Admin. for tracking, notification and mailing complimentary Journals to the writing contest winners.

The guidelines for Scholarly Research essays should be done according to accepted guidelines within the discipline with appropriate citation method (APA, MLA or other relevant form).  Research should be primary and incorporate original results, observations and insight.  In other words, the competition seeks original critical conclusions beyond summary of already published research.   
  
Advisors should send one email per writing category containing the two separate Microsoft Word documents: (1) cover sheet with writing entry and (2) contact information form, plus the entry itself, to [desnational@neumann.edu](mailto:desnational@neumann.edu) by December 1, 2024. **Only entries submitted via email from the Chapter Advisor will be accepted.**

Final judging and the announcement of the results will take place not later than March 1 of the following year. Winners will be notified through the office of the local chapter Advisor.