

Assignment Sheet for Essay

Overview:

The purpose of this essay will be to demonstrate to me that you can argue effectively about literature. You should have a clear thesis statement that you then support with specific evidence throughout the rest of your essay. Your evidence will come from the text itself and may come from secondary sources as well if you so choose (but you are not required to use secondary sources). This essay is not a plot summary, response paper, book report, or explication. Instead, it is a persuasive analysis in which you enlighten the work of literature you are writing about.

Topic of Analysis:

The specific topic concerning literature is up to you, and the approach you use in your analysis will also be up to you. You are welcome to employ whatever analytical tools seem appropriate to your topic and to your interests. If you are having difficulty coming up with a topic, talk to me and we will try to come up with a topic you can deal with effectively.

Audience:

You should assume that your reader is familiar with the literature you are discussing and address that reader accordingly.

Constraints on Essay:

At least 50% of the essay must deal with literature we are studying in this course or literature that is listed on the Daily Schedule. You may discuss one or two works of literature but no more than two works. The essay should be 7-8 double-spaced pages in length. You must also turn in a rough draft along with the final draft of the essay. Also, please turn in a cover sheet with your paper that has your name and the title of the paper on it.