

# Term Paper

**For this paper, you will write an argumentative literary analysis on ONE of our readings from this term.** Keep in mind that an analysis is NOT a summary or report. You need to have something specific to say about the work you're analyzing, whether your stance is in opposition to your research or aligned with it.

Some suggestions on engaging with the writing process: pick the literary work that interests you most, develop a tentative thesis statement, complete your research, and write. They say (wisely) that revision is the most important stage in the process, so make sure you manage your time well. Procrastinating on a research project is a direct route to writing misery – if you procrastinate, you won't have time to revise properly.

There are two parts to this assignment.

## I. Proposal (50 points)

What I'm looking for at this stage is a single, complete, concise paragraph that demonstrates both an understanding of the assignment and a clear sense of direction. I want to see that you've been engaging with the appropriate research and that you're giving serious thought to your argument development. This will also give me a chance to let you know how viable your work is to date.

Using complete sentences, your proposal should:

- Identify your chosen literary work
- Provide a tentative argument/thesis statement
- Introduce your primary outside source
- Identify any potential counterarguments

## II. Term Paper (150 points)

There will be no rough drafts turned in for comments, which means you will be solely responsible for providing me with a polished draft.

Requirements:

- Your term paper **MUST** be *at least* 5-6 pages in length. A final draft shorter than 5 pages will result in the loss of a letter grade.
- Your paper **MUST** use textual examples (i.e. quotation) for support. A paper that is well written, but does not use text as support will receive a lower grade as well.
- Your essay **MUST** be prepared in MLA format according to our in-class discussions.
- You **MUST** use *at least* 2 scholarly sources (the literary text itself does *not* count as a source).
- Be sure to include a properly-formatted (MLA) works cited page.