

We should all be feminists

-Chimamanda Ngozi

https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_we_should_all_be_feminists?utm_campaign=tedspread&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=tedcomshare

Poetry is not a luxury

-Audre Lorde

<https://makinglearning.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/poetry-is-not-a-luxury-audre-lorde.pdf>

Use one or both of the above sources for the for this essay.

Remember to keep in mind the following when writing the essay.

What seems the most powerful or effective? What still feels weird or confusing?

The primary purpose of this paper is to develop and articulate your critical analysis skills as applied to readings situated in their historical contexts. Please note that this assignment is **not** an informative essay. There must be a clearly stated, debatable thesis guiding the organization of the paper. While I am not expecting you to provide and support a claim in three pages that no literary scholar has proposed before, your thesis should be something with which a reasonable person who has read these readings could conceivably disagree. There are numerous directions your argument can take, whether it be to consider the context of the piece(s), the rhetorical choices the author(s) makes in relation to their audience, and/or the medium of the text (speech, article, creative writing, documentary, etc). Here are a few examples of how such a thesis could be worded:

- Comparative: While both Author A and Author B address audiences beyond women of color, Author A uses common experiences of gender discrimination where Author B uses a class commentary to reach Audience(s) X (and Y) (men, white women, etc).
- Single text: In spite of a message of inclusivity, the photographs used and the interviewees featured in “Best Kept Secret: Suffrage in the 20th Century” undercut the progressive intentions of the documentary.

While it is important to use the text(s) to support your analysis, this paper is quite brief (900-1200 words), so be judicious about the length and quantity of quotations and paraphrases you incorporate to ensure that your argument takes center stage and comprises the majority of the writing.

Criteria

- *Thesis* – clearly identifiable in the paper, lists the texts, debatable claim
- *Argument* – analysis and critique are not overshadowed by summary and quotations, relevant counterarguments are anticipated, rationale is delivered in a logical, linear order, writer demonstrates cognizance of historical and social contexts

- *Organization and Style* – paper meets required word count and contains clear introduction and conclusion, informative topic sentences, professional tone, minimal grammatical errors, and MLA in-text citations and a Works Cited page

Paper One Rubric

<i>Thesis :</i>	Clearly identifiable
	Lists texts analyzed
	Debatable claim
<i>Argument</i>	Argument/Summary balance
	Counterarguments
	Logical organization
	Awareness of contexts
<i>Organization/Style</i>	Intro/Conclusion
	Topic sentences
	MLA in-text and Works Cited
	Professional tone and grammar
	Word count