

LIT 652 Milestone Three Guidelines and Rubric

For this assignment, due in Module Five, you will submit your **research exercise**. As preparation for using secondary sources in your final research paper, choose two credible and relevant scholarly articles within the field of literary studies on the topic of your final paper. In your own words, summarize the arguments of each source—explain how they each use close reading, contextual evidence, and theoretical approaches (or any other techniques you can identify) to make their arguments. Be sure to identify the primary theoretical approach of each source and how this approach is used specifically in the article. What themes, ideals, or values from the primary texts do these articles focus on, and how might you use them to support your own argument in your final research paper? What points of contrast or overlap do you see between these two articles? Your research exercise should be between 2 and 3 pages, and should provide a basis for you to incorporate further research on your topic into your final research paper.

Specifically, the following critical elements must be addressed:

Research Exercise

- Provide a **summary** of the arguments of two credible and relevant scholarly articles within the field of literary studies.
- Explain how they each use close reading, contextual evidence, and theoretical approaches (or any other **techniques** you can identify) to make their arguments.
- Identify the primary **theoretical approach** of each source and how this approach is used specifically in the article.
- What **themes, ideals, or values** from the primary texts do these articles focus on, and how might you use them to support your own argument in your final research paper?
- What **points of contrast** or overlap do you see between the two articles?

Guidelines for Submission: Milestone Three should follow these formatting guidelines: 2–3 pages in length, double spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and citations in MLA style. For more information on MLA style and how to cite, access the [MLA style guide from the library](#).

Critical Elements	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (75%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Summary	Provides a summary of the arguments of two credible and relevant scholarly articles within the field of literary studies	Provides a summary of the arguments of two scholarly articles, but articles are lacking in detail or are not relevant	Does not provide a summary of the arguments of two articles within the field of literary studies	18
Techniques	Explains how each article uses close reading, contextual evidence, and theoretical approaches (or any other identified techniques) to make arguments	Minimally explains how each article uses close reading, contextual evidence, and theoretical approaches (or any other identified techniques) to make arguments	Does not explain how each article uses close reading, contextual evidence, or theoretical approaches (or any other identified techniques) to make arguments	18

Theoretical Approach	Identifies the primary theoretical approach of each source and how this approach is used specifically in the article	Identifies the primary theoretical approach of each source but does not sufficiently evaluate how this approach is used specifically in the article	Does not identify the primary theoretical approach of each source	18
Themes, Ideals, and Values	Includes a description of the themes, ideals, or values expressed in the text(s) chosen and how these are at work in the text(s) specifically	Includes a description of the themes, ideals, or values expressed in the text(s) chosen but overlooks relevant factors or description is lacking in detail	Does not include a description of the themes, ideals, or values expressed in the text(s) chosen	18
Points of Contrast	Identifies the points of contrast or overlap between the two articles	Minimally identifies the points of contrast or overlap between the two articles	Does not identify the points of contrast or overlap between the two articles	18
Articulation of Response	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, or syntax	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, or syntax that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, or syntax that prevent understanding of ideas	10
Total				100%