

American Literature II
Final Paper Assignment

Due in class and on turnitin.com by Monday, May 3

Compose an original analysis of one or more works of literature from the Norton that we have not read or discussed as a class. You may read either the work of an author we have not read, or you may choose an author that we have read and read work of theirs that we didn't cover in class.

You must read and write about one of the following: 1) one or more short stories or essays; 2) one novel or treatise, either in whole or excerpted; 3) two or more short poems (less than one page); 4) one or more long poems (more than one page); or one play.

Papers that go beyond the minimum requirements of the assignment may receive higher grades than papers that merely satisfy the minimum requirements. You will receive a grade commensurate with the amount of effort you put into this assignment.

If the Norton contains only a very brief excerpt of a novel or only one very short story by an author, you are advised to go to the library to find more of that author's work to write about.

Complete the following four steps in your assignment (the grade percentage of each step is noted in the parenthesis).

1. Introduce your author and summarize the work or works of literature you have read. (10%)
2. Based on your readings of the Norton introductions and our class discussions, categorize the work you have read. What movement/s does it belong to? (20%)
3. Compare-and-contrast the work you have read with the work of two other authors we have read this term. (30%)
4. Interpret the work you have read. What meaning do you get out of it? (30%)

Format requirements:

- Minimum length: 1000 words.
- Format: typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins, 12 pt. Times font, left justified.
- Write your paper in Standard American English with proper grammar, spelling, and mechanics. (10%)
- Parenthetical citations for quotes and paraphrases must follow MLA style.
- Include the following in the upper right hand side of the first page: your name; a title for your paper; the number of words in your paper; the name, number, section and time of your class; and your professor's name.

- Number each page, centering the page number at the bottom of the page.
- Staple your paper before handing it in.
- Except for direct quotations, every single sentence and phrase in this paper must be of your own original composition. Students caught plagiarizing in any amount or form will receive a “0” for this assignment.
- You must submit your paper to Turnitin.com to receive a grade; papers not submitted to Turnitin.com will not be graded and will consequently be counted as a “0” in the student’s final grade calculation.