

ENGL 560: Revision Assignment

Your final paper (about 8 - 10 pages not including bibliography) will be related to the text(s) that you considered in one of your first two essays. In this assignment, you will place your analysis into a larger context by considering the implications of the literary representation(s) you have chosen to examine in your shorter essay.

The purpose of this assignment is two-fold. First, you will demonstrate your ability to incorporate outside sources and research into your own ideas and writing. You have two general options when using outside, secondary sources. On the one hand, you can use them to support and enhance your interpretation of the story: "I say X about this story, and this critic says something similar to X that supports my idea." In this method, you will want to discuss specifically how a critic's idea supports your own. On the other hand, you can also use a critic's ideas with whom you disagree in order to contrast your analysis: "I say X about this story, and this critic says Y. Here's why X is a better way to think about this story." In this method, you will want to make sure to fairly represent the opposing viewpoint and to discuss explicitly how your ideas and viewpoints differ. Additionally, you will want to argue why your viewpoint is a more useful one to employ in comprehending the text at hand.

There are four kinds of sources:

1. *Background*: sources in which you want to assert that something is a fact and which can contextualize your claims
2. *Exhibits*: sources that you offer an analysis or interpretation of (the books or films that are the focus of your essay)
3. *Arguments*: sources that are part of the discourse about your topic (other essays that focus on your topic, book, or film)
4. *Method*: sources that you use to delineate the method of analysis you will use or the terminology you will employ (works on psychoanalysis, feminism, Marxism, cultural studies, or other schools of thought that you can use to interpret your texts)

You should include at least five sources other than Exhibit sources (the objects of your analysis) in your revised essay. These works should appear on your Works Cited page. Of course, you may have more. While I discourage the use of websites unless they are maintained by scholarly sources (see <http://www.nines.org/> for example), you may use online databases available through AXE Library to locate important articles. The English Research Guide, with links to important databases and search engines, is available here:

http://library.pittstate.edu/ref/resources/arts_sci/english.html

You may also want to consult a reference librarian or visit me during my office hours to discuss revision strategies. Make sure to take a look at any books that are available in addition to the journal databases.

Second, this assignment is a test of your revision skills. You will need to revise your shorter essay in order to construct it into the longer essay. You may write more about the novel, but do not simply "cut and paste" your first essay into the middle of two blobs of research. In other words, you will want to make sure to integrate the outside sources smoothly into the writing that you already have. You will also want to take into consideration my comments on the graded draft that I returned to you. You can also visit the Writing Center or see me during my office hours to get additional help.

Presentation and Due Dates: MLA format, **8 - 10 pages** double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman **Keep in mind that the plagiarism and late policies apply to this assignment. The final version is due on Canvas by Friday, May 9 at 11:59 p.m.—NO EXCEPTIONS! All late essays will receive a grade of zero.**