

Final Paper and Final Paper Draft Assignments

Assignment Description:

Final Paper (8-10 typed pages, 300 points): This research paper will focus on some aspect of our course theme, Domestic Dramas. Whatever option you select, the paper must incorporate at least two peer-reviewed journal articles or books. Peer-reviewed articles and books are available in the library stacks, via the MLA bibliography, JSTOR, and ProjectMUSE.

Option One: Produce a close and critical reading of one or two of the texts from the course supported by at least two peer-reviewed journal articles or books. The paper may, for example, examine the economic, domestic (familial), national, or global issues raised and engaged by the text. Best practices to follow include engaged, precise close readings of passages, dialogue, and/or cinematic technique.

Option Two: Write a short domestic drama (a scene of about 5 pages). Produce an analysis of this scene (about 5 pages), supported by at least two peer-reviewed journal articles or books and a comparison or contrast with at least one of the texts we worked with this semester. Best practices to follow include engaged, precise close readings of passages, dialogue, and/or dramatic technique.

Option Three: Write a "Domestic Drama" age-appropriate unit or lesson for elementary, middle, or high school students (about 5 pages) that incorporates at least one of the texts we work with this semester. Produce an analysis of this unit or lesson (about 5 pages), supported by at least two peer-reviewed journal articles or books. Best practices to follow include engaged, precise analysis and rationale for the readings and assignments.

Final Paper Draft Assignments: You will conduct a series of assignments in preparation for the final draft. The cumulative, successful completion of these activities forms the basis of your class participation grade for this course (100 points total). Feel free to drop by my office hours at any stage in the drafting and revision of this paper.

1. **Topic Description** (Oct. 4): All students will submit via WebCT email or in hard copy a one-paragraph topic description of their final paper. The description should name which paper option you have selected and how you plan to focus and complete the assignment.
2. **Final Paper Rough Draft** (Dec. 6): All students will complete a rough draft of at least 6-typed pages and participate in a rough draft peer review workshop. You will give and receive feedback from at least two peers in the class. You will pass in copies of your rough draft with signed peer review comments along with your final draft. You will evaluate the usefulness of your peer comments when you pass in your final draft.
3. **Revision:** All students must demonstrate that they have worked through a rigorous revision process. Along with their final draft, students will pass in their two rough drafts with peer comments from the draft workshop and any other evidence they wish to submit of significant revision (e.g., an outline, brainstorming, copies of early drafts to compare with the final draft; copies with additional peer feedback from friends or the writing center, etc.)

Before passing in your final paper I encourage you to drop by my office hours to chat about your analysis, your creative and critical approach, your use of secondary sources, your thesis statement, etc. **No revisions will be allowed.** Put your very best effort into the final draft.