Anthology Paper (8-10 pages, 2000-2500 words): Due November 23

Objective: The anthology paper is the capstone project of the course. You will construct a critical anthology of three (3) to five (5) American poems and/or prose selections organized around a specific theme relating to American literature and/or culture. The anthology's introduction should state and explain the anthology's theme, selection criterion, and how each entry contributes to the anthology's theme. Anthology topics must be submitted to the instructor no later than October 14. The completed paper is due November 23.

<u>**Anthology Paper Required Elements**</u>:
1. **Title**.
2. **Table of Contents**. List three to five American texts, original publication dates and sources, authors. Include photocopies of works not included in our anthology. If the text is in our anthology, include inclusive pages numbers of the text.
3. **Anthology Introduction**: This essay describes the theme and crafts an argument for its significance to the study of American literature. How does this theme or focus fit into the study of American literature? The introduction must also describe and explain the anthology's selection criterion. How were the individual entries selected? What was excluded? If you could include more entries, what would they be? You may also consider providing historical background about the anthology's theme or crafting an argument about why we need to pay attention to these texts today. What can contemporary Americans gain from reading your anthology? Review the Heath Anthology's introductions for inspiration and organization ideas. Approximately 8 typed pages, or 2000 words.
4. **Individual Author/Text Introductions**: These short introductions should explain briefly how the text fits into the anthology. You may also include some biographical information on the author or interesting publication information. Again, review how the Heath Anthology introduces each author for inspiration. Approximately 1/2 -1 typed pages, or 125 to 250 words.
5. **Works Cited**. Use MLA format.

<u>**Anthology Paper Timeline**</u>

1. **Select a topic**: Write a brief description of the topic. Explain what topic you want to research and how your anthology contributes to the study of American literature. Do other anthologies exist already on this topic? How is your proposal going to contribute rather than duplicate what has already been done? You may also wish to include a tentative list of authors and/or texts.

   <u>Sample Topic Areas</u>: Topics should be focused. (i.e. Nineteenth-Century Women Regionalists)
      *Identity: gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, etc.
      *History: literature of WWI, Vietnam short stories, stories of the Great Migration, etc.
      *Literary Movements: regionalism, modernism, postmodernism, etc.

   DUE: Email your topic to your instructor **no later** than **October 14**.

2. **Research your topic and create an anthology**: Students should try to meet with the instructor at least once during the course of the semester about the anthology paper. Outside research is not required but will be helpful for most topics.

3. **Complete Anthology Paper. Due: November 23**

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Grading Criteria: When determining the Anthology paper grade, your instructor will consider the following:

a. **Content**: The anthology will be evaluated for the quality and clarity of the introductory material, the appropriateness of the items included in the anthology, and how well the individual items form a cohesive anthology. All Required Elements (described above) must be included.

b. **Style**: The anthology should be meticulously proofread to follow standard English spelling, grammar, and punctuation guidelines.

c. **Organization**: The anthology's arrangement should be clear and easy to navigate.

d. **Audience**: The anthology should be clearly crafted for a target audience identified in a short note to the instructor (i.e college students, or high school students, etc.).

Note: Please keep in mind that your original content determines the project's grade. Cover art, author pictures, graphics, lists to additional resources, and other "bells and whistles" will be evaluated as "the icing on the cake."