

Research Paper Overview

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The final goal of this project is to produce a well-written research paper based on a critical literary analysis which will:

- Demonstrate the ability to use the writing process to complete a critical assignment.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze an audience and select an appropriate written communication style. (*No personal voice.*)
- Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of sources.
- Synthesize information from a variety of sources into a new document.
- Analyze the selected stories: do not review, nor summarize the plots.

SECTIONS

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|---|-------------------|
| 01. Article Synopsis | due: 04.03 |
| 02. Declare a topic and thesis statement. | due: 04.03 |
| 03. Tentative Works Cited Page | due: 04.17 |
| 04. Turn in seven-to-eight page document: | due: 04.26 |

SOURCES

- 4 academic journals from school database (turned in with the final document)

Only utilize the following sources:

- Academic Search Complete (EBSCO), JSTOR Journal Archive, or Literature Resource Guide (Gale)
- eLibrary (ProQuest)
- **Avoid** using Wikipedia, Ask, Bing, Google, or any other commercial-based site.
- class text book

DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Eight-ten full pages (2,000-2,500 words), *plus* an additional work cited page
- Entire paper is double spaced, following MLA standard template

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THESIS POSSIBILITIES

Below are sample thesis paper topics. Choose one as a focus for your paper, manipulating the observations to suit your purposes. *Utilize critical analysis to support your theories.*

1. Analyze the victims in the following stories: Fortunato in “The Cask of Amontillado” and Homer in “A Rose for Emily.” Each character is placed in similar situations of passivity with similar results. Form an opinion regarding the motivations of the dominant oppressors in each story. What similar or dissimilar techniques do the authors use to motivate fear in their audience? Can a strong similarity be seen between Emily and Montresor?
2. Analyze Nathaniel Hawthorne’s character Georgiana in “The Birthmark” with James Joyce’s protagonist in “Eveline.” What similar or dissimilar techniques do the authors use to motivate their female protagonists? Form an opinion regarding the passive actions and motivations of the main characters in conjunction with their male counterparts.
3. Free-for-all: Compose your own thesis statement regarding character actions and motivations from any pair of the following authors.

Grimm Brothers

Kate Chopin

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Ernest Hemingway

William Faulkner

E. A. Poe

James Joyce

Sophocles

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