

ENG 1121: Composition II | Essay #3 | Literary Analysis

First Draft DUE: Monday 5/6 @ beginning of class
.bring 2 printed, stapled copies to class

Final Version DUE: Wednesday 5/22 @ beginning of class
.bring 1 printed, stapled copy to class
.hand in First Draft (with professor comments)
.hand in Revision Memo

ASSIGNMENT

Often, understanding the context of what you are reading allows for a fuller, richer analysis of that reading. For this essay, you will pick one Text and a corresponding Context from the list below. After researching the specific context, write a literary analysis essay that explores the text in relation to its context. Consider the overall theme(s) of the text, as well as *specific examples* of how that theme is played out, and why it is important. Use the context to better understand the choices, reactions, and feelings of the main characters, as well as narrative choices made by the author. Your essay should have a clear thesis statement (including reasons), and make an argument about how to interpret the literary text.

TEXTS + CONTEXTS

“A Lower East Side Poem,” Piñero →

Nuyorican, Nuyorican Movement, Puerto Ricans in NYC, The Young Lords Party in NYC

“Puerto Rican Obituary,” Pietri →

Nuyorican, Nuyorican Movement, Puerto Ricans in NYC, The Young Lords Party in NYC

Persepolis, Satrapi →

Politics of Iran in the 1970s & 1980s, Women’s Rights/Role in Iran

“American History,” Cofer →

Puerto Ricans in NYC, Hispanics and President John F. Kennedy, Racial/Ethnic Housing Discrimination

“Children of the Sea,” Danticat →

Politics of Haiti in the 1980s, Women’s Rights/Role in Haiti

****Citizen Illegal**, Olivarez (any poem)→

Mexican American Relationship, Mexican Immigration to the US, Undocumented Immigrants in the US

SPECIFICS

- + Be sure to give your paper clear structure and logical organization.
- + Your essay should be 1000-1200 words (~ 4-5 pgs.), typed, in MLA format (double-spaced, 12pt, Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins).
- + Your name, my name, the due date, and the assignment should all appear at the top of your first page.
- + Be sure your essay has an interesting and informative title.
- + You **MUST** use at least **TWO**, and no more than **FOUR** outside sources for this assignment. Wikipedia (or any other type of encyclopedia) is **NOT** an acceptable source.
- + An MLA style Work Cited page **AND** proper in-text citations are required for this assignment. **PAPERS HANDED IN WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTATION WILL RECEIVE AN F.**
- + The essay **MUST** be edited for grammar, typos, and readability; failure to do so will result in deductions from your grade.
- + Be sure to incorporate **ALL** corrections from your **DRAFT**.
- + **NO** late **DRAFTS** accepted.
- + **NO** late **FINAL VERSIONS** accepted—because this paper is due that last day of the semester!!