English 2001, fall 2019. Prof. Scanlan

**Final Essay Details:**

Directions: This essay asks students to analyze one or two short stories from an ethical standpoint (using our handout on Five Types of ethics). Students are also to incorporate at least one idea from our recent lectures: modernism, realism, globalization, science fiction, or cyberpunk. Students should consider, especially, what characters decide to do in moments of stress. Therefore, students should select characters and scenes in which important events occur. When character make decisions, that is when we can make a claim that they are acting according to some ethical principle. For example, does a character (or characters) act to help others or herself or nobody? What forces are acting upon a character to act/react in a certain way.

Texts:

“Tender Buttons” Stein

“A Very Short Story” Hemingway

“Ferryslip” Dos Passos

“Assimilation” Doctorow

“A Good Fall” Jin

“Say Hello, Wave Goodbye” Parsons

“The Veldt” Bradbury

“The Enormous Radio” Cheever

“Johnny Mnemonic” Gibson

Helpful Plan:

1) Begin by selecting a story that you like.

2) Then select two or three important scenes in which major actions occur.

3) Then try to see what sort of ethics characters in each scene seem to follow.

\*\* Characters do not have a set ethical code; they may change ethics quickly, so it is up to the critic (the student), to trace what happens

Your essay will be graded according to these four categories:

1. A clear introduction, title, thesis, and method (25 points)

2. Concrete nouns, well-structured sentences, and clear paragraphs (25 points)

3. Accurate examination of texts, inclusion of at least 5 direct quotes, accurate in-text citations (25 points)

4. Clear understanding and use of ethics handout and selected terms (25 points)

Note: 5. Do not use outside sources; I want to see how you engage with our class material.

Length: 900 words-approximately three full pages (use word count), 12-point font, normal MLA margins. Please use the Essay and Journal Format that I’ve provided in the “Readings” menu tab website. No cover page.

Due Dates:

**Dec. 12**: First draft due in class for peer review

**Dec. 19**: Final draft due in class: NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. EARLY PAPERS ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTED.