

Logsdon, Jeremy

From: Paganelli, Anthony
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 12:29 PM
To: Logsdon, Jeremy
Subject: Re: ENG 200 Assignment

Hey Jeremy,

I got your students reserved for this Wednesday and Wednesday, March 13 in room 3001 in the Helm Library. This is a really cool assignment, and I can also see how they may struggle. I can definitely work with them on this assignment.

If there are any other issues, please let me know.

Have a great day,

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From: Logsdon, Jeremy <jeremy.logsdon@wku.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 11:53 AM
To: Paganelli, Anthony <Anthony.Paganelli@wku.edu>
Subject: ENG 200 Assignment

Tony,

Thanks again for helping out with my ENG 200 students on Wednesday. There will be 9 of them, and I know you have had 5 of them before in both my and Dawn's former IPAS classes.

First – could we schedule another visit for the Wednesday before spring break, March 13th? This is a twofold task. One, I am going to be out that day for a MEC site visit. And two, they will have already gotten feedback on their first ENG 200 paper and their second will be coming up soon, so I thought this would be a good chance for a refresher as we discussed on PD day. Let me know if you have different thoughts or aren't available.

Second – this is the assignment they'll be doing. They're going to write three papers in ENG 200 on drama, poetry, and prose, respectively. Their first paper will be an analysis of drama. They'll have to examine one of the plays we've read (right now, either *Taming of the Shrew* or *The Glass Menagerie*, although I'm looking for a quick play to also incorporate so they have a third option) through the lens of one of three literary theories (Marxism, feminist & gender criticism, and reader response). They will likely not know what any of these literary theories are yet, and that's fine.

The skillset I want them to get is a reinforcement of research, which I know they've already been exposed to, especially looking through MLA International Bibliography database. (Although they are not restricted to this – I'm fine with any academic search engine.)

I do not care how old their resources are, because it's literature and something someone said 50 years ago is just as valid as something someone said yesterday. I do not care what resources they use – book, journal article, dissertation – so long as it is an academic source.

The main thing I see them struggling with is they'll put the title and the literary theory in the search engine, and that may not be enough. For instance, I just looked up Taming of the Shrew and feminist/gender criticism theory and I got nothing, but when I searched for the title and just gender, I found four results. Basically, I imagine they'll have to play around with what they're searching for, and that's the skill I'd like to see them start to develop.

The actual parameters for the assignment given in the syllabus so far:

Drama paper: This literary analysis will have you analyzing one or more of the assigned plays by way of one of the literary theories structuring this class. While this requires outside research and sources, you must ground the essay in an analysis of your chosen literary theory. You will be expected to have at least two credible, scholarly sources. An exploratory thesis is advised, but an argumentative thesis could also be used. This drama paper must be at least 1,000 words, excluding references. A more detailed explanation of how the literary theories should be utilized is shared below.

- Marxist Literary Theory: In this literary analysis, you will delve into one or more of the assigned works through the perspective of Marxist Literary Theory. Explore how economic structures, class relations, and power dynamics are portrayed within the work. Consider the characters' roles in the broader societal context, and how their socio-economic positions influence their actions and identities. Additionally, analyze how themes of exploitation, alienation, and potential for social change are addressed within the text.
- Feminist and Gender Criticism Literary Theory: This literary analysis invites you to examine one or more of the assigned works using Feminist and Gender Criticism Literary Theory. Pay close attention to how gender roles, stereotypes, and power imbalances are depicted. Analyze the representation and agency of female characters and consider how they navigate societal expectations. Reflect on intersections of gender, race, and class within the work, and assess whether it challenges or reinforces traditional notions of femininity and masculinity.
- Reader Responder Literary Theory: This literary analysis encourages you to engage with one or more of the assigned works through the lens of Reader Responder Literary Theory. Focus on your subjective experience and interpretation of the text. Consider your personal reactions, emotions, and thoughts as you read. Reflect on how your own background, experiences, and beliefs influence your understanding of the work. Additionally, examine how the narrative style, structure, and language contribute to your engagement with the text.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can provide that would help give context. Thank you so much for doing this! You are helping me out immensely!

Jeremy

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