

FINAL PORTFOLIOS

THE FINAL PORTFOLIO SHOWS THE FRUIT OF YOUR LABOR THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER. OVER THE COURSE OF FIFTEEN WEEKS, YOU WILL HAVE WRITTEN **FIVE BLOG POSTS, ONE PAPER PROPOSAL, ONE RESEARCH PAPER (INCLUDING A ROUGH DRAFT), A CREATIVE WORK, AND YOUR “AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A READER” ESSAY**. THE PORTFOLIO SHOULD INCLUDE ALL OF THIS MATERIAL, ORGANIZED ACCORDING TO THE TEMPLATE PROVIDED IN THIS PACKET. IF YOU HAVE LOST THE FILES ON YOUR COMPUTER, YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THEM FROM DROPBOX. IF YOU HAVEN'T SAVED THE BLOG POSTS AS WORD DOCUMENTS, YOU WILL HAVE TO COPY AND PASTE THEM INTO YOUR PORTFOLIO.

THE PORTFOLIO IS **5%** OF YOUR FINAL GRADE. REMEMBER THAT I SAID AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER THAT THIS IS THE EASIEST 5% TO OBTAIN: IF YOU MEET ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT, YOU WILL GET 100 POINTS, NO QUESTIONS ASKED. THOSE REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- A 2-3-PAGE (DOUBLE-SPACED) REFLECTION ESSAY
- YOUR “AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A READER” ESSAY, ALL 5 OF YOUR BLOG POSTS, YOUR PROJECT PROPOSAL, YOUR ESSAY DRAFT, YOUR FINAL ESSAY, AND YOUR CREATIVE WORK (ALL DOUBLE-SPACED), ORGANIZED ACCORDING TO THE TEMPLATE PROVIDED IN THIS PACKET
- THE ABOVE MATERIAL INCORPORATED INTO **1 FILE** AND SUBMITTED TO DROPBOX BY **THURSDAY, MAY 8, BY CLASS TIME**.

WRITING THE REFLECTIVE ESSAY

THIS 2-3-PAGE DOUBLE-SPACED ESSAY GIVES YOU A CHANCE TO REFLECT ON WHAT YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED AND LEARNED (ABOUT LITERATURE AND ABOUT YOURSELF) OVER THE COURSE OF THE SEMESTER. THIS IS NOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS TO THE INSTRUCTOR OR TO LAMENT THE WORKLOAD. THIS ESSAY SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON YOUR ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COURSE. THERE IS NO SINGLE WAY TO WRITE THIS REFLECTIVE ESSAY, BUT HERE ARE SOME TOPICS YOU MIGHT COVER IN IT:

- Your writing abilities when you entered the course and your writing abilities exiting the course. We've covered:
 - How to write a thesis statement that makes an argument about a literary text.
 - How to choose evidence relevant to your claims.
 - How to incorporate evidence into a paper (introduce it, integrate it, analyze it)
 - How to write an engaging introduction and conclusion
- Your interest/engagement with literature at the beginning of the course and your current interest/engagement with literature
 - Did you discover a new genre, era of literature, or author that you particularly enjoy?
 - What texts were your favorite, and why?
 - What did you learn about yourself as a reader?
 - How might your reading habits change after this course?
 - How did creatively responding to a text (via your adaptation planning) affect your engagement with literature?
- The development of your critical thinking skills
 - Which issue were you particularly drawn to when reading? Here are a few that we've addressed: storytelling/legacies, science/technology and literature, monsters/monstrosity, narrator's credibility, love/revenge, the representation of women in fiction, class barriers and the transition from feudalism to capitalism.
 - Do you notice details about literature or texts that you didn't notice before?
 - Have you learned to read literature on more than a superficial level (for more than just plot)?
- An increased awareness of historical periods, schools of thought, and/or genre distinctions (the text-world aspect of the reading triangle). Keep in mind we've discussed, in particular:
 - The Early Modern Period (1450-early 1700s)
 - The Romantic era (1800-1830s)
 - The Victorian era (1837-1901)
 - Freudian psychoanalysis ("the Oedipus complex")
 - Lacanian psychoanalysis (the Real, the Imaginary, and the Symbolic)
- A better understanding of how different readers read texts differently (the reader-text aspect of the reading triangle). Things to consider:
 - Our consideration of adaptations
 - Class discussion—hearing different perspectives on texts and how this contributes to your understanding of a text
 - Peer reviews and what you've learned from reading others' drafts

ORGANIZING YOUR PORTFOLIO

YOUR PORTFOLIO SHOULD COMPRISE ONLY **ONE WORD DOCUMENT**. THAT MEANS YOU'LL NEED TO COPY AND PASTE YOUR "AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A READER" ESSAY, BLOG POSTS, FINAL ESSAY/ROUGH DRAFT, AND THE CREATIVE WORK INTO THE WORD FILE THAT CONTAINS YOUR REFLECTIVE ESSAY. YOU SHOULD LABEL THE SECTIONS OF YOUR PORTFOLIO APPROPRIATELY, USING A SEPARATE PAGE BETWEEN ITEMS TO INCLUDE THE TITLE OF THE SECTION OR SUB-SECTION. PLEASE INCLUDE A TABLE OF CONTENTS WITH PAGE NUMBERS. PAGES SHOULD RUN CONSECUTIVELY THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WORD DOCUMENT. ALL MATERIAL SHOULD APPEAR IN THIS ORDER:

- I. TITLE PAGE (TITLE, NAME, INSTRUCTOR'S NAME, DATE, CLASS/SECTION)
- II. TABLE OF CONTENTS
- III. REFLECTIVE ESSAY
- IV. "AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A READER" ESSAY
- V. BLOG POSTS
 - A. BLOG POST 1
 - B. BLOG POST 2
 - C. BLOG POST 3
 - D. BLOG POST 4
 - E. BLOG POST 5
- VI. FINAL ESSAY
 - I. PAPER PROPOSAL
 - II. ROUGH DRAFT
 - III. FINAL DRAFT
- VII. CREATIVE WORK

THAT MEANS THAT EACH OF THE ABOVE SECTIONS SHOULD BE LABELED ON ITS OWN PAGE BEFORE INCLUDING THE DOCUMENT ON SUBSEQUENT PAGES. TAKE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR A BRIEF EXAMPLE.

Final Portfolio

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Instructor Jennifer Yirinec

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8 May 2014

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Reflective Essay

When I first entered this course . . .

“Autobiography of a Reader” Essay

First line of "Autobiography of a Reader" essay here, no heading/header necessary;
just paste the body of the document in.

Blog Posts

Blog Post 1

Begin Blog Post 1 text. And so on. Label all section headers and sub-sections on their own page as above. The same goes for rough drafts/final drafts: each should be labeled on a separate page.