**Literary Research Project 2014**

**Academic 11/ Mrs. Barefoot**

[**http://www.barefootk.weebly.com**](http://www.barefootk.weebly.com)

**Objectives**

·         To read and think critically as you read

·         To explore questions which arise as you read a text using credible sources

·         To understand what credible sources are and how to locate relevant and credible sources using traditional and nontraditional sources

·         To compare a literary work to other works from a similar time or about similar themes

·         To understand what plagiarism is and how to avoid it

·         To apply research skills to write about literature using paraphrasing, quoted passages, and internal citations.

**Overview of Task**

\_\_\_\_\_1.  You will select a book of choice to read from the recommended list, or you will seek and receive approval for an alternative book selection.

\_\_\_\_\_2.  You will read this book independently and during class designated DEAR days between now and April 25th.   I will track your reading periodically with brief reading response assignments in class. You should bring this book to class with you to reference when we complete these tasks. Additionally you will be required to take part in online book discussions through your Goodreads account.

\_\_\_\_\_3.  You will develop research questions as you read that you will record and come **April 25th,** you will submit a list of these questions to me in preparation for our journey to library for research. Your list should be comprised of at least **5 questions** for potential research.

**What do I mean by research questions?**

A good book may cause you to wonder about your world and your place in it. Although, we cannot really objectively research the meaning of life as that is a personal question, we can use research to explore some of the other questions that arise when reading a good book.

* If you are reading historical fiction, you might research the historical accuracy of a text or look at a specific aspect of history that arises in a text and learn more about it in detail.
* You might learn more about the author and how his or her experiences influenced the writing of the book, the themes of the book, or the characters in the book.
* You might research a social or psychological issue that arises in a book to see if the real world facts align with what you see represented in the text.
* You might explore the times in which this author wrote and see how this author fits into the trends of those times.

**The Research Process**

1. Once you have read your novel, and developed research questions, you need to dive into finding answers! **We will be in the library from Monday, April 28th- Friday, May 2nd.**
   1. Begin by exploring the various resources available to you. Sources which contain information ABOUT your book or topic are known as **SECONDRAY SOURCES.** You need a minimum of **3 secondary sources** for this paper. Ideally, you want to aim for variety of sources—1 from each category.
   2. You are also to use information from the book you read. This is called a **PRIMARY SOURCE.** It is the original text around which your research is based.
   3. Categories of secondary sources:

* **Print Books, Periodicals, reference materials**

Alexandria System- card catalogue

* **Databases**

CQ Researcher

POWERLibrary

SALEM Press

BLOOM’S Literature

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

* **Websites**

You MAY NOT use any of the following websites: Sparknotes, Cliffnotes, ENOTES, WIKIPEDIA, or SCHMOOP. When evaluating a website to determine reliability, consider:

*.net and .com can be an individual’s site—is this individual a scholar on the subject? .org, .gov, and .edu are more reliable as a general rule*

*Is there a date of publication and has it been updated recently?*

*Is there a works cited or list of sources consulted at the bottom of the page?*

*Do all the links work? Are there grammatical errors?*

1. When you find a reliable source, **create a citation** that can be used later on a Works Cited page.
   1. Place the citation on a note card.
   2. See the note card and Works Cited sample in this packet for MLA formatting rules.
   3. You MAY use a citation creator like EasyBib.com to assist you.
   4. Don’t forget to make a citation for your PRIMARY SOURCE.
2. Now that you have your source, begin taking notes.
   1. For each source, create a **minimum of 5 note cards** of information. That gives you 4 sources x 5 note cards= **20 note cards total.** These will be checked at the end of our week in the library.
3. You are now ready to begin an **outline.**
   1. Follow the example outline in the packet and plug your information into it. Follow the MLA formatting exactly.
   2. Outlines will be due on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Next, you are ready to write your **1st draft.**
   1. Your draft must be in MLA format.
   2. Your draft must include a works cited page.
   3. Your draft is due on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Lastly, write your **final paper.**
   1. This paper should be grammatically correct and reflect an editing and revision process.
   2. Your Works Cited must be updated and error-free.
   3. This paper is due on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.