

**Reading Journal** (1 page, single spaced): 150 pts (15 journal entries x 10 pts each)

Your reading journal will be a formal reaction to our weekly readings. Your reading journal will respond to a text and you will use your journal comments as a tool so that you can add to class discussions. You will turn in each journal entry at the end of class. There will be 17 class discussions, but you only have to turn in 15 reading journal entries.

Each journal entry should (a) analyze and summarize the thesis and main points of the reading, and (b) you should respond by criticizing the thesis, main points, or interesting details. Your journal entry should be one to two formal paragraphs (i.e. each paragraph should introduce text, introduce your thesis and support, and then explain main ideas in good detail). I will be looking at (1) accuracy and detail of your summary, (2) quality of your thought, and (3) formal quality and clearness of your writing. All journals should have properly formatted in-text citation and work cited entries.

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**3 Short Critical Analysis Essay Portfolios** (final draft 3 pg, double spaced) 100 pts each

Write a short, formal essay that summarizes, analyzes, and interprets *two or more* related readings from *Text Book* discussed in class. You should formulate your thesis in relation to the literary concepts discussed in *Text Book*. You should begin by summarizing and analyzing one or more literary concept at the beginning of your essay. You should then use your concept(s) to analyze and interpret a single literary work or a group of short literary works included in *Text Book*, or included on a handout discussed in class. You need to articulate a clear thesis that argues your interpretation of the work of literature. You also need to use several textual details to prove that your interpretation and concepts accurately explain the text. All essays should have properly formatted in-text citation and work cited entries.

Introduction (1 paragraph)

- (a) Introduce subject via conversation
- (b) Introduce your thesis and the main ideas/support you will use to explain/prove your thesis

Body (3-5 paragraphs)

- (a) Explain your central concept(s)
- (b) Use concept(s) to analyze and interpret literary work(s)

Conclusion (1 paragraph)

- (a) Restate your thesis and supporting main ideas
- (b) Concluding remark

Work Cited Page

You need to follow the formatting guidelines of the reading packet, and you need to complete a full **portfolio**, which includes: final draft, 2 rough drafts, essay outline, 10 words of vocabulary, and completed editing sheets. See reading packet for portfolio cover sheets. Each essay portfolio should have a portfolio coversheet stapled on top. I strongly suggest that you complete a rough draft of your outline and make an appointment to discuss the outline with me during office hours *before* you write your first draft.