

English 102
Professor Lewis

Midterm Essay

Instructions: Respond one of the following prompts in **4-6 pages**. You must cite from at least **2 scholarly sources**. Head your paper and cite in **MLA format**. Review the syllabus for details about the paper's format. Please consult your syllabus for due dates.

This paper will focus on your analysis of the text and should utilize quotes from it. I advise that you do not cite any outside sources in your essay. This is your interpretation. Each paper will need to have a strong, objective thesis and avoid plot summary.

Remember that these are formal essays and should avoid use of "I" or "you", have a clear title, and seek to analyze the text and its values.

Reminder: If you have questions or concerns about this essay, please contact me. I am more than happy to meet with you during my office hours or by appointment. E-mail is also available.

Analyze one work of fiction from our class focusing in on one of three things:

- **Character analysis**
- **Plot analysis**
- **Theme analysis**

Form a thesis that basis itself on analyzing one of these three things and use the text to discuss your point. For example, you may decide to analyze Mrs. Mallard and her motivation in "The Story of an Hour" alongside the theme of women's rights. You could consider analyzing how O'Brien discusses masculinity and the burden of long distance relationships. Perhaps you could discuss the gothic setting in "The Yellow Wallpaper" and how it emphasizes the troubles women experience after the birth of their children. Make sure to use evidence from the text to help prove your point.

If you have any questions, please see me.