Final Essay

Instructions: Respond one of the following prompts in 5-7 pages. Head your paper and cite in MLA format. Review the syllabus for details about the paper's format. ***Please consult your syllabus for the due date.***

This paper will focus on your analysis of the text and should utilize quotes from it. This paper should also utilize a minimum of **2 scholarly sources**. Summaries and websites like Bookrags, SparkNotes, etc. will not be accepted.

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.

Compare any 2 fictional works, 3 poems, or 2 plays on one specific aspect. The aspects you can focus on will entirely depend on the works that you choose, but here are some *suggestions* to help you get started:

Fiction & Drama:
- Compare any 2 characters that are relatable. What struggles do they deal with? How do they manage during their struggles? How does the way they think influence their actions?
- Compare how 2 works treat either men or women. What standards are men or women supposed to uphold? How do others look at those standards? What does the work seem to say about them?
- Compare any two works along similar values. What does a work seem to say about racism, truth, gender, illusion, heroism, etc.? How do the plot, characters, and other elements influence these judgments?

Poetry:
- Compare the themes of the poems and how each work handles that theme. You may want to focus on how each poem treats nature, death, women, men, joy, etc.
- Compare poems in their use of rhythm, rhyme, and other sound devices. What do these do to influence the overall message? Do they all use one sound device in a similar way? What do the differences tell us about each poem? How can you tell?