

Assignment Template:

All materials handed in for grade MUST have the following information either in a header or on a separate cover sheet.

Your name

Your student ID #

Course Name

Instructor's Name

Assignment Title

Your Subtitle (where applicable, as on the Remix or Essay Outline and Essay assignments)

Date Submitted:

RESPONSE PAPERS

Learning Outcomes:

- RECORD your responses to texts;
- USE your responses to formulate a focus for discussion;
- ORGANIZE those responses into a coherent argument;
- INTEGRATE your responses with additional learning experiences (e.g. classroom exercises, lectures etc.);
- SUPPORT your responses with **close reading** of the primary texts;
- ARTICULATE your argument in clear, concise language and proper essay form;
- DOCUMENT your work in proper MLA format.

HELPFUL RESOURCES AND EXAMPLES:

Lund University: Response Papers:

<https://awelu.srv.lu.se/genres-and-text-types/writing-in-academic-genres/the-essay-format/response-papers/>

Longwood University Sample Response Papers:

<http://www.longwood.edu/staff/mcgeecw/sampleresponsepapers.htm>

Hunter College: Writing a Response or Reaction Paper:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/rwc/handouts/the-writing-process-1/invention/Writing-a-Response-or-Reaction-Paper>

Detailed Instructions Begin Next Page

INSTRUCTIONS:

A reading response paper is not simply a record of your opinions, likes or dislikes with regard to the texts. Rather, your response paper is your opportunity to conduct a *concise, detailed analysis* of the plays with regard to a *particular theme or question* of your choosing.

- A response paper includes your personal reactions to the text but these must be framed by *relevant critical contexts* and supported by *detailed close readings* of the texts.
- A response paper is similar to a Reading Journal but in this case is expected *to conform to the format and conventions of the scholarly essay* (proper essay form, thesis, close reading).
- You are not required to include secondary research but you may do so if it is relevant and helpful.

NUMBER OF PAPERS REQUIRED: TWO (2)

MINIMUM LENGTH: 600 words each

TOPIC: The topic will be devised by you. You must conduct close reading, but your discussion may also be comparative in nature, so you will need to find a focus that is appropriate to the length of the papers.

FORMAT: Proper MLA style, documentation and citation. Include a Works Cited for each paper.

YOU WILL HAND IN FOR GRADE:

1. The assignment template from the top of this document as the first page or heading of the Response Paper;
2. The 600-word Response Paper;
3. Works Cited in proper MLA format.

ASSESSMENT:

I will collect the response papers on the dates indicated on the Readings and Assignments Schedule.

- Concision, clear language, proper paragraph and sentence structure;
- Tidiness, care for presentation;
- Accurate MLA citation and documentation;
- Detailed references to the text;
- Effective and coherent argument (thesis, illustration, evidence);
- Evidence of application of ideas, conceptual tools, definitions etc. to the texts;
- Contextualization of personal response by classroom experience, supplementary or secondary sources;
- Evidence of intellectual commitment and curiosity.