Culminating task

An **anthology** is a collection of literary works chosen by the compiler or editor. It may be a collection of poems, short stories, plays, songs, or excerpts. They are generally centered on one theme.

You are to develop a portfolio of literature written by published authors/creators based on a theme that you have chosen as your focus. You will research a wide variety of forms and styles that express your chosen theme.

 About the Products

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The Anthology | | |
| C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\media\office10\Bullets\BD21301_.gif | Content | Format |
|  | * You are to construct a portfolio, a visual presentation of your project, assembled as an attractive package. It should contain designs, illustrations, photos, models, video, and sketches. | * You will collect TEN different sources and display your written analysis and excerpts in a Duotang **or** Weebly website |
|  | * This portfolio will be a collection from 6 selections in total taken from two types of literary material | * Type One: Excerpts from Longer literature - biographies, historical, or scientific literature or other nonfiction; novels, essays, plays , longer poems , short stories, myths, etc.) |
| * Type Two: Shorter works in their entirety such as song lyrics, nonfiction articles, parables, graphic novels, and shorter poems. |
| * Type Three: Screen Texts. (Movies, television shows, videogames…other screen texts) **Long and Short NARRATIVE screen texts**. \*\*\*Narrative means a story is told. \*\*\* |
|  | * For each of the 6 selections you will compose a ONE-PAGE (double spaced) three-part analysis as follows: | * identification of the source |
| * explanation of the relevance of the source to your theme |
| * provide reason(s) why you chose to use this source for you anthology |
|  | * From this research you will articulate a clearly worded thesis from which you will develop a formal literary essay of 1000-1200 words [1,500 words is the maximum accepted length]. | * This will be included in the portfolio |

About the Process

Due Dates:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| May 11 | Proposal |
| May 25 | Bibliography of Sources |
| June 1 | Essay outline |
| June 13 | Final due date |

Work Days:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Library | May 2, 4, 7, 11, 22 31,  June 4, 8, |
| Computer Lab | To Be Determined |

About the Themes

It will be very helpful to pick a theme as the central spine of the anthology. The following list of suggestions. You can choose one of these or generate your own.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| success | the quest for self knowledge | revenge | old-age | justice |
| the perilous journey | Competition | morality | childhood | goals |
| sacrifice | the hero | quest | death | evil |
| alienation | Tragedy | injustice | absurdity | adventure |
| nature | Comedy | dreams | truth | war |
| romance | fantasy/escape | conflict | apocalypse | Faith |
| satire/irony | Madness | values | maturity | determination |
| survival | innocence to experience | risk | Substance abuse and sport | Coming back against all odds |

 Notes

It is vitally important that you do each of the steps in the process. I will not accept any anthology without an attempt at the process.

Your literary essay will not require you to incorporate all of 10 sources into your argument. Your final paper will require a detailed analysis of a minimum of three major works. You must read and understand these thoroughly. In addition you might (but are not required) to analyze an additional work or two. Be careful though not to spread yourself so thin that all of your content becomes shallow.

About Evaluation

This unit constitutes of 20% of your final mark and is broken down as follows:   
  
A. Process Work Leading to Literary Essay in order of submission  
Portfolio (10 excerpts) -5%   
Creative Presentation–5%    
Literary Essay–10%

Proposal:

Your proposal should include the following items

1. What is it
   1. A sentence describing your proposed theme.
2. So What!?

* A paragraph explaining what the point is…
  + Why is this theme worthy of study? Think of ways that it Important, valuable, central, vital, appealing?
  + It could be that you think it is essential for all humanity and central to the human experience and the human condition

***OR***

* + It could be something personal and close to your own experiences and personal viewpoints.

1. The goods

For a more detailed description of the selections see “about the product”

* A list of tentative selections in MLA format
  + Include at least two longer selections
  + Include at least two shorter works
  + Include at most two narrative screen texts
* A sentence on each selection describing how it fits

with the proposed theme.

***Exemplar***

Proposal

Craig Beckett 2012

Parenting: An unending challenge

A Multimedia Anthology

Craig Beckett Spring 2012

**Proposed Theme:**

My proposed theme is how parenting is the most heartbreakingly impossible job that humanity is faced with.

**So What:**

As a young parent I find that parenting is a stage of my life that is as challenging as any other I’ve ever faced. Being a parent is more difficult than any other job I’ve ever done. Being a good father and a good parent is something I take seriously and try to do well every day. I think that the entire mission of humanity can be affected by looking at parenting through the nuance of literature and other modalities of cultural transmission. Why is parenting so challenging and why does it make us feel inadequate? What are the rules of parenting and what does literature have to say about good parents and bad ones?

**The Goods:**

Longer Works:

1. Novel:

McCarthy, Cormac. *The Road*. New York: Vintage, 2006.

This is McCarthy’s post apocalyptic tale of a father and son traveling through a blasted and destroyed America as they are beset upon by all manner of horrors. I will look at Father’s herculean struggle to protect his child and repair the damages wrought by the desperate struggles they endure.

1. Novel:

Morrison, Tony. *Beloved*. New York: Vintage International, 2004.

This book is about an escaped slave named Sethe and her children as they cope with both the literal and figurative ghosts conjured by horrible lengths Sethe goes to protect her children from slavery.

Shorter Works:

1. Poem:

“Heart’s Needle”

Snodgrass, W.D. *Heart's Needle*. 1st pbk. New York: Knopf, 1983. Print.

A confessional poem that recalls the authors experiences as the parent of a young daughter and his divorce and estrangement from his wife and the separation from his daughter.

1. Song:

Heirloom Bjork

A unique Bjork ballad dedicated to the psychic healing and support that her mother and child represent to her.

1. Video game:

Silent Hill PS1

Harry Mason and his daughter Cynthia are in a car accident outside of the town Silent Hill. When Harry awakes from the accident Cynthia is missing and he must travel through the nightmarish town to retieve her.

1. Movie

In the Bedroom

A New England couple’s young adult son is involved with an older woman with two small children. Something terrible happens and the whole community reels in the fallout.