

English 312
Spring 2017

Blog Posts

The class is divided into three groups. Each group will post their blogs on our Wordpress blog before class time on the date assigned to your group. If you are in Group A, you will post for every date where “Group A Posts” is written on the course calendar. The same directions apply to Group B and Group C. Each group will post 5 times over the course of the semester. All of these dates are already on the course calendar. Please pay attention to when your group posts. Your posts must be posted before class time. Posts can be made anytime in advance. No late posts will be accepted, and there will be no opportunity to make-up posts. This means it is necessary to keep up with the reading and your posting.

I will read through the posts before class time. Feel free to bring ideas from your blog into the classroom discussion. Also, read your classmates’ blogs and introduce those ideas into class discussion (with proper credit to whose ideas they are of course).

Right now our blog has public settings. I intend to keep it that way; however, if you are particularly concerned about this please see me. We can discuss the possibility of making the blog private.

The structure of the posts is that they will be short responses to the reading for that day. Each post should be about 350-500 words. The goal of the blog is not to write a formal essay on the reading but to respond to the reading in a manner that will prepare you for class discussion. Feel free to generate your own ideas for your blogs or to respond to **one** of the questions below:

- 1) What is the relationship between the subject matter and the genre in this text? In other words, why were these events told in this manner and not in another form?
- 2) What kinds of social, political, or cultural commentary does this text contain? Is this text pushing a specific agenda or point of view? If so, how is that integrated into the text?
- 3) How does this author tackle ideas about art and the artist? Is this text about art in an overt way? If so, what is the author trying to say about art?

You are encouraged to consider the format of the blog and use that to your advantage in your writing. This means you can include images, consider formatting options, and be flexible with your writing style.

I will send an invitation to your email addresses to join the class blog. You can follow the directions to create a Wordpress username and password if you don’t already have one. You don’t have to use your real name when signing up for Wordpress; however, if your username is not clearly linked to your name, please let me know what your username is. Below are some general tips for using Wordpress. I find their help section very useful too. If you are having trouble with Wordpress, please come to my office hours and we will figure it out together.

https://codex.wordpress.org/Writing_Posts

Rubric

There will be 5 posts over the course of the semester. Each post will be worth 5 points for a total of 25 points.

Thoroughly engages with reading		1
Demonstrates complexity and depth of thought about text		1
Presents clear and applicable close readings of texts		1
Text coheres as overall writing		1
Engages the reader with appropriate content for the format		1
Total		5