

Multigenre Project

Introduction to Literature

What is a genre?

This is a way for you to present research in a variety of writing styles. Your goal is to engage me to think about your topic in a new and different way. If you keep me thinking about the topic after I've stopped reading your assignment, you've done your job. Even the driest of topics can suddenly become more interesting through the use of multiple genres.

✓ Requirements:

- Cover page
- Table of Contents
- Preface, forward, or introduction that conveys the topic of your paper
- Theme paper---minimum 4 pages in Times New Roman, 12 pt.
- Eight different genres that support theme. You want to present depth of understanding for your topic (only simple genres may not help.)
- Conclusion that shares your thoughts about your topic/process
- Handout/poster/PowerPoint for your oral presentation
- Works cited in MLA format

Theme Paper

To further enhance your understanding of the themes and characters in the stories we've read, you will choose one of the following topics and write a 4 page essay (minimum) exploring the theme and connecting it to **five different literary works** that we've read or five literary works that you've read from an author you are highlighting. Provide examples from the text; you may use direct quotes to enhance your main points.

Possible topics:

- Courage
- Loneliness
- Symbolism
- Deception
- Stereotypes
- Past vs present
- Tradition
- Age vs Youth
- Freedom/Independence
- Reality vs Illusion
- Ambition
- Betrayal
- Relationships

- Truth
- Suffering
- Perseverance
- Sacrifice
- Silence/secrets
- Sin and Redemption
- Duty
- Happiness
- Good vs evil
- Preapproved topic of your choice

Essay should be well developed. Introduction needs to be engaging and should have a main idea (thesis) that you will focus on for the rest of the essay. Body paragraphs should support thesis and have topic and concluding sentences. The conclusion should wrap up the entire piece without insulting the reader.

"I believe more in scissors than I do in the pencil." Truman Capote

Genres

Select **eight genres** which will add to, explain, or support the theme of your essay. They should weave together and even though there are different, it should tie into your essay as 1 cohesive project.

****For each genre, you need a "Dear Reader" to show your reader what he/she is seeing. Basically it's a rationale to explain yourself—why did you choose this, what are we reading, how does this enhance your essay?



Genre choices

- Character study
- Letter exchange between characters
- Poem in the voice of a character
- Poem about novel's themes or ideas
- Obituary or eulogy
- Personal diary/Letter
- Inner monologue
- Myth, Tall Tale, or Fairy Tale
- Short scene from a play/movie
- Timeline or Chain of Events
- Magazine or TV advertisement or Infomercial

- Travel brochure
- Top 10 List with description
- Comedy Routine or parody
- Ghost story
- Website
- Human Interest Story or Magazine Feature
- Letter to the Editor
- Sequels
- Resumes or Interviews
- Complaint
- Satires
- Essays
- apologies
- Photos with captions
- Picture book
- Wordless picture book
- Memory
- Funeral note
- Speech
- Scrapbook
- Recipe
- Newspaper article
- Short story
- Persuasion essay
- Family newsletter
- Sermon
- Song lyrics
- Interview
- Postcards
- Question/Answer
- Survival kit
- Eyewitness account
- Letter to an editor
- Tabloid article
- Letter to an expert, company, advice column, etc...
- Movie/book review
- Discuss with me if you have other ideas. It has to be a written expression of your theme.

To Kill a Mockingbird Example

For example, say your essay is about the role of women in the novel. You have written that Scout is not a typical girl even though her aunt wishes she would be. You could make a “typical girl” definition and then transition to a speech from Scout as a grown woman who talks about important things for women to do. OR it could go to a poem in which she complains that everyone seems to be trying to make her into something she’s not.

Tips to tackle this assignment

- 1) Think about what you need to say
 - 2) Think about whose voice is not expressed in the main text
 - 3) Think of what the characters or authors would say if they were more free
 - 4) Think about what your characters or authors would say in the future or from the grave
 - 5) Choose genres base on what you need—don’t fit what you need to a genre
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- ✓ **Grading:** You will be grading on creativity, grammar, mechanics, and fulfillment of all requirements.

Literature 1005 Multigenre Project

Cover page 5 pts _____

Table of Contents 5 pts _____

Forward 10 pts _____

Theme Paper

200 pts_____

Eight Genres

25 pts/genre_____

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

8)

Conclusion

10 pts_____

Oral Presentation

50 pts_____

Visual/Prop/PowerPoint/Handout/etc...

20 pts_____