

Great Works of Literature: TechnoLiterature

English 10, Section 3 (Spring 2010)

Dr. Katherine D. Harris

PRESENTATION & SHORT ESSAY

There are several options for your Presentation Project and the Short Essay. Today, we'll sign up in class for these groups. (Stragglers will be assigned to whatever is left open.) I will handle our first novel, *Frankenstein*. Pay attention to what information I'm presenting about *Frankenstein*. Aspire to this type of information in your presentations.

Rationale

The literature in this course is rich with historical, social, political and cultural references as well as being references themselves for later literature and film. For this presentation, students will work together in groups to present information on the authorship, publication, dissemination, reception, structure, characterizations, later references in art – any information that the group finds interesting enough to convey. It's the group's job to decide what is most important to show/tell the class, therefore be discerning about the information and *dynamic* about the presentation. Since the group will essentially begin our discussions for the day, the presentation needs to inspire students to read, discuss and generally find out more. Choose from the literature and presentation dates below:

Selections

<i>Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde</i>	Present 2/18	Novella
<i>A Clockwork Orange</i>	Present 2/15	Novel
<i>The Passion of New Eve</i>	Present 3/9	Novel
<i>Mirrorshades Anthology</i>	Present 4/6	Short Story Collection
<i>Patchwork Girl</i>	Present 5/4	CD-Rom

The Presentation (20 mins.)

During this 20 minute presentation, each student will present 5-minutes' worth of information. The material should be presented cohesively; in other words, the presentation should clearly show that the group members have shared research, reviewed one another's work and integrated each other's presentations as seamlessly as possible. In the past students have used maps, film clips, songs, historical games, PowerPoint demonstrations and even websites to demonstrate and enhance their presentations and their grades. *If you need any audio/visual equipment, please ask me at least a week in advance.*

For the presentation's contents, perform research on the production and reception history. Begin by reading the Introduction to your text – there should be a lot of information here. For instance: How was it written? In what form was it originally published? Can you show us an example? What did critics say about it? Who read it? (These questions are provided to help you with your research; not all need to be answered.) This portion should give the class a sense of the literature when it was originally published. You may also provide historical information: What political, social or cultural events are reference? Did the literary piece influence any parodies? Did it inspire any artwork or films? Is the author's background important to know? Don't just recite summaries or information from the novel's introductory pages; tell us what you found out about this literature. Excite us with your presentation.

This presentation requires each group member to perform research either in the library or on the Web. Please be skeptical of any Web resources. For help on research, see the recommended text, *Research Guide for Undergraduates in English & American Literature*.

The Short Essay (1000 words)

Each group member is individually responsible for turning in a 1000-word essay on the day the group is scheduled to present. The essay will contain all of the elements that *you* presented but in greater detail and in a formal style (MLA style, including a Works Cited). See below for details about formatting your essay.

Turning in the Short Essay

Be very careful about plagiarism. If you are unsure, see me, visit the Writing Center or stop by the Peer Mentor Center. Format requirements are below:

- 1000 words, typed and double-spaced in 12pt font with one inch margins
- Works Cited page in MLA format
- In-text citations in MLA style (parenthetical citation)
- Name, date, course and section number typed at the top left corner of the first page
- Name and page number typed in upper right corner of every page following the first page
- Staple the pages together (DO NOT FOLD OR PAPERCLIP YOUR PAGES)
- Proofread everything before you turn it in; there should be no spelling or typographical errors
- Submit to Turnitin.com for verification

Grading

You will receive two grades for this assignment:

- ***The first*** will assess your Group Presentation, which will be based on its effectiveness (preparation, comprehension, depth). Presentations will be based on the entire group performance so be sure to practice with your group members. A missing group member on the day of the presentation will lower this portion of the grade.
- ***A second grade*** will be assigned to your written Essay, which will be based on your ability to communicate your ideas in a formal piece of writing (see the “Departmental Grading Policy” on the Greensheet). Failure to follow the above formatting requirements will result in a lower grade. Late papers will receive the penalization indicated on our Greensheet.