**Unit 2: Heroics/Villainy in Texts (20% of the Course Grade)**

**Important Dates:**

Rough Draft due on Turnitin: **Thursday, 11/15 by 8AM**

PeerMark: **Thursday, 11/15 by 11:59PM**

Final Draft due on Turnitin: **Tuesday, 11/20 by 8AM**

**Length and Format**: at least 750-1000 words; Standard MLA format with Works Cited Page;***Failure to meet page and/or formatting requirements will result in ten points EACH deducted from your essay grade; failure to include appropriate MLA documentation will result in a zero for this assignment.***

**Constraints:** Inductive or Deductive Reasoning;Use of at least ONE primary and ONE secondary academically credible source; Third Person POV;Literary Analysis Conventions; ***Failure to write in third person POV will result in ten points automatically deducted from your essay grade—even if it’s just one pronoun.***

**Examples to read for inspiration:**

* [A Devious Success in the Battle for Popularity](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B96d8s_A_EjAenBTdzFnQTQzYTg/view?usp=sharing)
* [A Joy that Kills](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B96d8s_A_EjAY1pzS2Q5dVpsSkU/view?usp=sharing)

**Grading:** [English Literary Analysis Rubric](https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B96d8s_A_EjAaFU2aTFCY0NZWm8)

**Guidelines:** In a literary analysis, you do not review the story or re-tell the plot; instead you explore a particular aspect of the story in detail, such as character, symbolism, themes, or setting. ***Since this is analysis of a text, you are required to use present tense when describing the story and third person point of view.***

For your literary analysis, you will read a variety of short fiction for class, then choose one of the texts to write about. You may also choose a short story or novel outside of the class collection. You MAY NOT use self-published materials or TV/Film; your chosen text must be written and formally published (i.e. not just available online). You will support your argument using the story you select and information gleaned from a secondary source.

Choose ***ONE*** of the following prompts, or develop one of your own:

1. Does heroism/villainy exist in in the story? If so, how and why? If not, why?
2. How do the characters in the story define the heroic/villainous ideal? Focus on one or more characters. You may also argue the opposite side—how/why the characters do not define the ideal.
3. Who is the hero and/or villain of the text? Why? You may focus on one or more characters.
4. Demonstrate the hero journey present in the story. You may also argue the opposite side—how/why the story does not follow the monomythic structure.
5. Demonstrate the archetypes present in the text.
6. Make a case for why the text fits or doesn’t fit into one or more of Booker’s Metaplots.

***DO NOT*** attempt to write about all of these prompts in your essay. You must choose ONE or develop your own.

To complete this assignment, first choose a short story or novel to work with; this can be a favorite story or novel or just one that you are intrigued by. Not sure where to start? Check out these short story collections or visit the Unit 2 folder for more stories to peruse:

* [“These Classic Stories Are So Short, You Have No Excuse Not To Read Them“](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/22/short-story-read_n_4220181.html)
* [“100 Great Short Stories”](https://americanliterature.com/100-great-short-stories)
* [“13 Short Stories From Classic Novelists You Can Read Over Lunch”](https://mic.com/articles/94552/13-short-stories-from-classic-novelists-you-can-read-over-lunch)
* [“Classic Short Stories”](http://www.classicshorts.com/)

**These stories are OFF LIMITS. DO NOT USE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING STORIES (if you do, you’ll get a zero):**

* “The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin
* “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson

**Checklist**

Before you turn in your essay, make sure you can answer “yes” to the following questions.

* Does your essay have a specific title (other than Essay 2)?
* Does your introduction capture the reader’s attention?
* Do you include a clearly written, detailed thesis statement?
* Have you mentioned the author and title of your short story(ies) in the thesis statements?
* Does each paragraph support your thesis statement?
* Do you use specific examples from the text and secondary source(s) to develop your body paragraphs and support your points?
* Do you connect your evidence to your thesis statement through the use of commentary?
* Does your concluding paragraph bring your essay to a satisfying close?
* Is each paragraph well developed?
* Does each paragraph transition from one to the next?
* Is the essay written in third person?
* Is your essay formatted correctly? (See MLA information on eCampus)
* Do you correctly format the text title every time it is used?
* Is your essay free of grammatical errors?
* Is essay at least 750 words?
* Have you correctly spelled the text title AND the author and character names?