11th Grade American Literature (Gender)

What is American Literature? How has American Literature molded the themes and structures of modern novels today? Has and will the cannon dissolve and allow literature to evolve devoid of structure and categorization? How do European texts differ or relate to American Literature? Do students benefit from learning one or the other? Can literature, and other types of art mediums, benefit or become bogged down by titles? Eras? Time periods? What does history lend to the study of literature?

**Description:** The numerous questions above relate to the following project. For the remainder of this semester each of you will work on developing a comprehensive informative and informational, analytical, and reflective paper to address the topic of study in this course.

**Requirements:** Each paper will include three section headings—each to address the prompt in a different manner: informative, analytic, and reflective—in addition to an introduction (abstract) and a conclusion. The paper will meet the minimum requirements of containing at least 8 academic or peer reviewed sources, being eight (8) paragraphs in length, and following accurate MLA formatting and citation standards. There is no page minimum or maximum as long as you meet the requirements previously stated.

**Prompt:** How has the genre of American Literature evolved and affected other mediums of art and our modern—ever-changing—understanding of history?

**Additional Information:** You can and should address many of the questions first listed prior to the introduction of the project. It will serve you well to compare our American and European texts, utilize your banned book projects and semester mini lessons on iconography, as well as the weekly assignments, quiz questions, and prior essay prompts you have worked on in class thus far this year.

**\*You will need to turn in a proposed outline for this essay as a part of your final for first semester. This outline is due on Friday, December 16th of 2016 by 11:59pm.**

If you would like to turn in a draft or two of this paper, I will be more than happy to assist you in your editing and refining processes; however, neither a first, nor a second draft will be required for this assignment. In light of this assignment you will not be required to write an essay for the last two of our texts: The Curious Incident of a Dog in the Night-Time or Firestarter.

**Due Dates: Your paper will be due on Friday, May 12th of 2017 by 11:59pm.** This assignment is worth 150 points. Your assignment will be docked 10 points for every day it is turned in late. The last day to turn in this assignment will be Friday, May 26st of 2017 by 11:59pm. On this last day, your paper will only be worth a total of 60 points. Grades are due during the last week of school and students who turn in papers after the last day listed above will receive zero (0) credit for their work.