

FYS 011, Paper # 2, Fall 2014

Write an essay in which you analyze how one or more representations of *Fight Club* or *The Virgin Suicides* offer/s a social vision. You can approach this assignment in a number of ways: one way would be to look at one representation; another would be to analyze similarities and differences in how the film and novel version of, say, *Fight Club*, create social visions. Another option would be to write a comparative analysis of two works of fiction or two films we have recently studied, focusing on similarities and contrasts in the social visions. In discussing a text or texts, you should explain what produces the vision. That is to say, what human needs or desires such as power, or what social structures such as class, spirituality, sexuality, gender and so on, inform this social vision?

I do not want you to repeat what was discussed in class. Rather, you need to add something to our conversation by extending things we said or by offering ideas we did not discuss. You can also use any critical readings used in class. Thus, this assignment asks you to make a contribution to our discussion, rather than repeat what was already discussed. And, of course, you can use your writings for Blackboard as a foundation but you should also extend and try to reformulate the thinking you offered in your writing for Blackboard

Consider the following questions when writing your essay, but do not limit yourself to these questions: What is/are the vision/s? In what specific ways do the texts contrast or correspond with each other? What human or social forces contribute to shaping the vision/visions? How does human behavior, action, and identity contribute to the social vision? What might a representation suggest about the social reality you know—the world as you understand it?

In performing your analysis, please use specific statements or passages, scenes or visual sequences, to present and support your discussion. Aim for focus, not arbitrary coverage, so that you have a central area of investigation and your writing develops into coherent analysis. Please remember to quote from the text, plus use page references and citations, and provide detailed analysis of scenes or passages.

The paper should be a minimum of 4 pages in length.

Between Monday, October 27 and Saturday, Nov. 1, you are to visit The Writing Workshop with your draft in progress.

THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR EACH OF YOU. BRING YOUR ASSIGNMENT AND A HARD COPY OF YOUR ESSAY IN PROGRESS. YOU ARE TO ASK THE TUTOR TO WORK WITH YOU ON TWO ASPECTS OF YOUR WRITING:

- 1) DEVELOPING THE CENTRAL CLAIM/THESIS/FRAME FOR YOUR WRITING; AND
- 2) DEVELOPING THE DETAILS OF YOUR ANALYSIS TO SUPPORT YOUR CENTRAL CLAIM/THESIS/FRAME.

I REPEAT: THIS IS A REQUIREMENT. THE SESSION WILL LAST ONLY 30 MINUTES. TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, GO TO <http://artsci.drake.edu/writersworkshop/wwshop.html> and follow the directions. They are easy to follow. You must make an appointment.

All sessions meet in the lower level of Cowles Library, Room 47.

You will send a draft of the paper to Swilky and all members of your Blackboard group.

SEND E-MAIL OF DRAFT OF PAPER # 2 TO SWILKY AND ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR BB GROUP BY 9 am Sunday Nov 2. SEND RESPONSES TO ALL WRITERS BY 5PM, Monday Nov 3.

**Conferences outside class on Nov. 4, 5, 6, and 7
Revised Paper due Nov. 8, 9, or 10 depending on your conference.**

GENERAL QUESTIONS FOR READERS TO CONSIDER FOR RESPONSE TO PAPER # 2

Part 1. What does the writing do? (This is descriptive)

- 1) According to the writing, what is/are the social vision/s represented by the text/s?
- 2) If two texts are discussed, in what specific ways do the texts contrast or correspond with each other?
- 3) According to the writing, what human or social forces contribute to shaping the vision/visions?
- 4) According to the writing, how does human behavior, action, and identity contribute to the social vision?
- 5) What does the writing convey about how the writer interprets the text/s representing the world as the writer understands it?

Part 2 . What more can the writing do ? (This suggests useful possibilities for expanding and revising the content you have discussed.)

- 1) How might the writing elaborate on its presentation of the social vision/s represented by the text/s?
- 2) If two texts are discussed, how might the writing more fully present a contrast or correspondence between the visions?
- 3) How might the writing more fully explain how human or social forces contribute to shaping the vision/visions?
- 4) How might the writing more fully explain, how human behavior, action, and identity contribute to the social vision?
- 5) How might the writing elaborate its explanation of how the writer interprets the text/s representing the world (as the writer understands it)?