

LSP 200 – Multicultural U.S. Literature – Reading Analysis Assignment Sheet – 35%

Purposes:

These assignments should: 1) indicate your comprehension of course readings and concepts; 2) encourage original thinking and critical interpretation; and 3) draw connections between our texts and worldly matters relevant to our authors and ourselves.

I allow some flexibility with these Reading Analysis assignments and I encourage you to experiment with your interpretations, test out thesis statements, and examine what *you* are interested in.

Requirements:

These write-ups are short—about 2-pages long (double-spaced). FIRST, briefly **summarize** the reading (your summary should be less than one page); SECOND, **explain** a major theme that the work addresses that connects with our primary course concepts; THIRD **analyze** the effects of one or two of its **premier formal properties**—decisions that the author has made, like an interesting use of simile, setting, symbolism, irony, etc. (ask yourself why this formal property is significant, or how it influences a reader's interpretation of the work or theme).

Each Reading Analysis **must** cover the work that will be addressed on the day that the assignment is due.

1) Reading Analysis 1: Kate Chopin, <i>The Awakening</i>	DUE:	April 15th	10pts
2) Reading Analysis 2: Native Perspectives and Portrayals (any reading from Unit V)	DUE:	May 13th	10pts
3) Reading Analysis 3: Alison Bechdel, <i>Fun Home</i>	DUE:	May 29th	15pts

Particulars:

- Minimum 2 complete pages; double-spaced; 1-inch margins all around; 12-point Times New Roman font.
- Do **not** add a cover page.
- Include a title, centered, that clearly indicates your *topic* (not just the name of the assignment).
- Include your name, my name, the course number, and the date in the upper left corner.
- Use quotations and/or paraphrases from our readings, analyze those quotations, and cite correctly in MLA form.
- Use MLA citation rules for in-text citations. Include a Works Cited page.
- Use conventional punctuation throughout:
 - See <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/12/> for sample Works Cited page
 - See <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/03/> for information on citing and formatting quotations
 - See <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/> for information on formatting the submission itself

Grading:

You will be graded on your understanding of the readings, the clarity of your prose, the organization of your response, the correctness of your comparisons, and your inclusion of formal analysis.

Review:

Your writing should reflect clear and organized thoughts. I do not separate your ideas from their presentation, so don't let good thoughts be dulled by sloppy writing.

Be sure to proofread, edit, and revise your work before submitting it! Visit the Writing Center:

<http://condor.depaul.edu/writing/index.html>.