

THEATRE ARTS 101 – FARR

CRITICAL PAPER: Inspecting Carol By Daniel Sullivan

WINTER 2020

**Essay Brainstorming/Thesis and Prompt plan** - DUE: No later than Sunday, January 26, 2020 by 11:55 PM sent through assignments. DO NOT send assignment through an e-mail. Note: This is only the brainstorm. The assignment for the actual paper will be due at a later date:

Critical Paper completed and turned in through CANVAS ASSIGNMENT LINK Due: No later than Thursday, February 6, 2020 by 11:55 PM. (NOTE: This is the last day of the WINTER SESSION CLASS)

DIRECTIONS: Choose one of the following prompts and craft a 3 – 5 page, double-spaced, essay in MLA (Modern Language Association) Format.

1. Discuss the various themes that Sullivan uses in the play Inspecting Carol By Daniel Sullivan and how these ideas reflect the social, political, and economic ideals of the year/time period it was written (why is this play relevant now?) Explore why you might think this play would be timeless and why it is so widely produced or popular.
2. Create a directorial concept and production plan this play, illustrating why you make the choices you did. (Note: This can include visuals to back up your descriptions, but the 3 – 5 page written portion in addition to these is still a requirement.) You may choose to focus on particular aspects of the production process (such as lighting, sound, properties, costumes – or a combination of these).
3. Create your own prompt – although challenging – if you have another idea that you would like to explore related to Inspecting Carol By Daniel Sullivan, create your thesis. It must be on the play and it must be your own ideas. You can get creative here – perhaps a commentary on Theatre in general (since this is essentially a “play within a play” or the use of theatrical convention or a compare/contrast to a traditional holiday show).

WAYS TO BE SUCCESSFUL FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT:

- Follow directions: Be succinct with your writing and follow the 3-5 page rule. This does not mean you should go more than 5 or less than 3. If you have pictures or a works cited page per MLA Format, that is not included in these parameters.
- Look up what MLA format means. A great website for reference (along with some sample papers) is [www.dianahacker.com](http://www.dianahacker.com) and click on Student Sites :
- Even if you feel you have a polished paper – do one more spell and grammar check. Better yet, have someone else read your paper, or read it aloud! This will help you find out if you write what you mean, and mean what you write.

- Use your own ideas. Plagiarism is an academic offense. If you borrow anything without properly citing the source, you run the risk of a failing assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Do not risk it. If the paper has suspicion of plagiarism, it will be reported to the Vice President of Instruction.

- A reminder that this assignment is worth 15% of your overall grade. The grade will be made up of the following:

Originality 5% (Are the ideas college-level ideas that have an original take on the play or playwright? Is the paper entertaining? Does the introduction draw the reader in? Does the conclusion give the reader something to think about? In other words, not just a rehashing of the first paragraph)

Content 5% (Does the paper give a compelling argument? Are the topic sentences (beginning each paragraph) supportive of the thesis statement? Are the points specific and have strong evidence to support these points?)

Format (MLA) 3% (Is the paper in Modern Language Association Format? Are the citations properly formatted?)

Grammar/Spelling 2% (Is the sentence structure, spelling and usage at college-level? Is it written in third person and consistent?)

TOTAL: 15%