English Studies 12

**Independent Synthesis Project Criteria**

Listed below are the specific criteria and requirements for your independent synthesis project. If you find that your inquiry is slightly different in focus and/or structure, please consult with me to ensure that the criteria are still applicable to your focus.

Reminder: A **synthesis** is a *thematic compare-contrast* between your book and either (1) your own life and experience (personal synthesis); (2) another literary text (literary synthesis); or (3) a film (movie synthesis). In other words, you **cannot** write or present about *just* your book.

**Personal Synthesis Essay**

* approximately 500-750 words; 1.5 or double-spaced on the computer; size 12 Times New Roman font
* at least *three* direct quotations from your book
* at least *two* outside research citations (i.e. in addition to your book), cited correctly **within your essay** *and* in a **works cited** **page** (see marking rubric for more detailed criteria)
* *diction* and *tone* are appropriate for a personal essay

**Literary Synthesis (Essay)**

* approximately 500-750 words; 1.5 or double-spaced on the computer; size 12 Times New Roman font
* at least *one* direct quotation from *each* text in each body paragraph
* at least *two* outside research citations (i.e. in addition to your book and secondary text), cited correctly **within your essay** *and* in a **works cited** **page**
* *diction* and *tone* are appropriate for a formal literary essay (e.g. No “I” statements, colloquial or slang language, etc.)

**Literary Synthesis (Presentation)**

* approximately 10 minutes in length
* approximately 8-10 slides (Power Point, Prezi, or equivalent program)
* slides will contain point-form notes *only*, which are to expanded upon during the presentation (i.e. **NO** reading directly, word-for-word, from the slides)
* at least half of slides must contain excerpts from *both* texts (the significance of which you will be expected to expand upon in your presentation)
* point-form note cards are permitted, and will be handed in to me following the presentation
* an e-mail of your presentation must be e-mailed to me *before* the day of your presentation
* at least 4 slides must also include some visual element related to your text and analysis
* any and all research sources must be cited *in your presentation*

**Movie Synthesis (Essay)**

* approximately 500-750 words; 1.5 or double-spaced on the computer; size 12 Times New Roman font
* At least *one* direct quotation from *both* the book *and* the movie in each body paragraph
* at least *two* outside research citations (i.e. in addition to your book and movie), cited correctly **within your essay** *and* in a **works cited** **page**
* *Diction* and *tone* are appropriate for a formal literary essay (e.g. No “I” statements, colloquial or slang language, etc.)

**Movie Synthesis (Presentation)**

* approximately 10 minutes in length
* approximately 8-10 slides (Power Point, Prezi, or equivalent program)
* slides will contain point-form notes *only*, which are to expanded upon during the presentation (i.e. **NO** reading directly, word-for-word, from the slides)
* at least half of slides must contain excerpts from *both* the text *and* dialogue from the film (the significance of which you will be expected to expand upon in your presentation)
* ideally, include at least one video excerpt from your film (which will be analyzed as part of your presentation)
* point-form note cards are permitted, and will be handed in to me following the presentation
* an e-mail of your presentation must be e-mailed to me *before* the day of your presentation
* at least 4 slides must also include some visual element related to your text and analysis
* any and all research sources must be cited *in your presentation*

**Important Note on Research: Please refer to you inquiry marking rubric for marking specifics for outside research.**