

ENGL 7990

The Portfolio Assignment

When completed, you should present your portfolio to your major professor on or before a date assigned by your major professor. The portfolio should be neat and orderly and enclosed in a three-ring binder with tabbed dividers separating the various sections of the portfolio. Any sources used in the completion of relevant sections of the portfolio should be documented appropriately according to MLA specifications. Questions regarding the portfolio should be directed to your major professor.

The contents of the portfolio should follow the basic guidelines given below, with specific details provided by your major professor.

Contents:

Section One

For each primary work included on the reading list, draft a **reader response** of 750-1000 words in which you (1) discuss the themes of the work and (2) suggest ways in which those themes might be taught in a high school setting (including pedagogical strategies, and so forth). The section on how the work might be taught should comprise no more than 250 words of the response.

For each of the theoretical/auxiliary works on the list, the response should be 500-1000 words and should not include discussion of how the work could be taught.

Section Two

Provide a complete and detailed lesson plan for the work that is taught in the guest lecture given as one of the assignments for ENGL 7990. Include

- A. The lesson plan(s) suitable for teaching the work at the college level in the class selected for the **guest lecture**. Include a copy of the lecture and discussion notes used during the guest lecture. (This is **teaching lesson #1A** on the sample schedule.)
- B. The lesson plan(s) suitable for teaching the work in a high school classroom (including relevant classroom exercises, quizzes, tests, etc.). (This is **teaching unit #1B** on the sample schedule.)
- C. A researched essay of four-five pages discussing trends in the scholarly, secondary research material available on the work. This essay should point out trends in the research and should include discussion of 8-10 sources, with an emphasis on contemporary articles and books (in other words, those published most recently). The essay should synthesize the material and present it under the umbrella of a unifying thesis. (This is **researched essay #1** on the sample schedule.)
- D. A brief (two-three page) **post-guest-lecture assessment** of the guest lecture (strengths, weaknesses, suggestions for teaching the work a second time, etc.)

Section three

Provide a lesson plan unit devised for teaching one of the other works on the reading list in a high-school setting (including class exercises, quizzes, tests, lecture notes, etc.) (This is **teaching unit #2** on the sample schedule.)

Section Four

Compose an essay (suggested length: 8-10 pages) that synthesizes 15-20 scholarly, secondary sources on one of the other works represented on the reading list (not already used for sections two and three of the portfolio). This synthesis should culminate in an argument about a theme of your choosing. At the end of the essay (in no more than 2 pages), discuss ways in which one might be able to convert some of the secondary source material into lecture and discussion material for use in a classroom. (This is **researched essay #2** on the sample schedule.)

Section Five

Include a completed **assessment survey** (provided by your major professor).

Note: if deemed appropriate by your major professor, relevant or related elements of sections two and three of the portfolio may be completed as part of preparation for pursuing NBPTS certification.