1. The format of the research paper will follow the MLA format. This paper will determine how well you analyze, how well you cite sources, and how well you document sources as well as your mechanics and style in academic writing.

2. ALL SOURCES IN THE PAPER MUST BE CITED. Plagiarism will result in an “F” grade for the paper. Citing requires: a Works Cited page AND in-text citations. Leaving one out is plagiarism.

3. The paper will be no less than 1000 words in length. This does not include the works cited page. Short papers cannot earn a “C” or better.

4. Your essay must include at least 3 secondary sources (a source OTHER THAN the short story, poem, or play) as well as any primary source you have read (short story, poem, play). Encyclopedic entries are not to be used as a secondary source.

5. You may ONLY use the HCC library databases or books. THE INTERNET, other than the HCC library databases, IS NOT TO BE USED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT.

6. Your research paper will be on an author you select from the list below. The paper will cover the following topics (usually in this order).
   - The author’s life and background (a BRIEF summary)
   - Why the author is considered important in the genre
   - A summary of two critical views of the author’s work WE have read this semester.
   (These will be a summary of the view with a quote or two from the critic. You will then provide your opinion of the views and EXPLICATE the quotes. You can agree or disagree, but you must provide evidence for your opinion.)

   You are to quote critics. The criticism you read and share should be on the works that you have read by that author.

To recap, this paper will have three required sections: biographical information about the author, criticisms, conclusion (author’s value).

Authors to choose from:

Kate Chopin               John Steinbeck
Kurt Vonnegut            W. H. Auden
John Updike              August Wilson
Katherine Mansfield      Eugene O’Neill
Langston Hughes          Sherman Alexie

Sample of a critique of a critical review
A review of the articles shows that the first one, "Feminist Scholarship and the Field of Musicology: I" by Jane M. Bowers, discusses the issues of feminism and its place in music. Published in College Music Symposium, this article focuses on the subject of music history. Bowers argues that the "great" male composers dominate music history, and almost nothing is said about women composers. That music history lacks a feminist viewpoint is not surprising, she argues, as nearly all the disciplines in the arts have little emphasis on women’s issues. One reason for the void is that many scholars have felt that it was not suitable to incorporate women’s issues into their particular field. According to Bowers, "[T]he scope of musicology is . . . not defined by lived social realities, and hence its purview, like those of philosophy and literature, is similarly less suited to the incorporation of women . . ." (83). She believes this presents a dilemma to feminists, who must now explain why women’s studies are relevant to music. Bowers goes on to discuss historical ideas about women and their function in music. She cites recent discoveries about the influence of women musicians in the nineteenth century. In her conclusion she restates the argument that there is a lack of research and studies being done on women in music. She suggests searching for ways to emphasize women’s compositions by focusing on the differences between men and women’s compositional styles, and looking at the instrumental music of women.

Make sure you are putting it in your own words and citing properly.

Rubric:

Brief biographical section:   /14

critical reviews of work:   /30

Your explication about the reviews:  /15

Number of sources is a minimum of 4 (one primary and three secondary:   /16

In-text citations correctly formatted:  /25

Works cited correctly formatted:  /25