

ENG 4U

Independent Study Project

The ENG 4U ISP is an opportunity for students to think and act as independent learners. Each student will be required to read one novel from the list provided and thematically compare it to a text from the grade 12 University English Curriculum. It is the student's responsibility to formulate an original thesis which will become the basis for the essay.

Structure and Criteria

Literature Circles and Reading Response Journals:



Although the ISP is an independent endeavour, it is not meant to be something developed in isolation. We understand a text better when we can share our ideas with our peers. With this in mind, talk about the text you are considering and have another student read the same text. You will then gather in small groups on the days below and share with your groups your thoughts, concerns and questions. That same day, with your new found insight, write a one page response to the reading you have completed to date. Your reading response journals will be submitted at the end of that period and will be submitted for formal evaluation when your reading is complete.

1/2 of novel read by: _____ writing journal in class

whole novel read by: _____ writing journal in class

Conference:

For this conference, each student will submit a detailed essay outline. This means that the thesis, all main arguments and all supporting evidence and quotations are mostly prepared in point form.

- failure to bring the above will result in a mark of zero for the conference
- the conference will be evaluated on the quality of the discussion
- if the formal conference is not completed on the scheduled day or if you reschedule without prior consent from the teacher, you will receive a mark of zero for the conference but it must still be completed in order for you to submit your final paper

*students are not to use notes obtained from other courses

Written Essay:

- 1500-2000 words or 5-7 typed, double-spaced pages
- this essay will be written at a level of complexity and sophistication suitable for Grade 12
- You are encouraged to use secondary sources to supplement your own ideas

- your essay must include a works cited and parenthetical references –M.L.A. FORMAT
- your essay must include all the components of a well-written essay: clear thesis, convincing arguments, documentation and appropriate style and tone
- academic honesty must be adhered to
- failure to properly acknowledge sources will result in a mark of zero

Process Work:

- With your essay, you must submit:
 - MLA formatted essay
 - All rough drafts: you must show evidence of HAND EDITING. (highlighted photocopies or a computer-generated copy of your essay will not be considered as rough work).

Your essay will not be accepted for evaluation until all process work is present!!!

4UI SUGGESTED ISP TOPICS

In writing your thesis, you will need to choose one of the topics below to frame your thesis around. If you would prefer to write on a topic not found on this list, you must have teacher approval well before your conference.

1. The effect of setting on the psyche/theme.
2. Truth and self-deception.
3. The search for redemption.
4. Disease and the dissolution of order.
5. Family dynamics (choices, bonds)
6. Character development through duty, sacrifice.
7. Figurative language (symbols, metaphors, imagery) and the development of theme.
8. The author's treatment of women.
9. The validity of the narrative perspective.