

Sample Honors Project Proposals

ENG 232 Honors Project Proposal

My proposal for my English 232 Honors project is composed of three parts. The first part entails writing an extended version of the required research paper. This paper will be an interdisciplinary analysis of an assigned work of literature. I am choosing Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper." I will compare and contrast past treatment for post-partum depression with current treatment practices. It will be focused on the psychological effects of the disease and how the treatment during this era actually escalated the problem rather than cured it. My goal is to tie Gilman's character's response to the "rest cure," and past post-partum treatments, with physiological analysis of solitude. I believe that my past research done on women in medicine and the history of medical progressions will help me to better understand why men in Gilman's character's era prescribed in the manner in which they did. This paper will be 10 to 15 pages in length and go alongside an end of semester presentation to the honors committee. The oral presentation is the second component and will be 15-20 minutes in length regarding "The Yellow Wallpaper" and my analysis of it. A PowerPoint presentation will also be a part of the oral presentation. In addition to the above components, I will be writing five critical responses to assigned literary texts. These responses will involve further research utilizing scholarly articles that support the themes or ideas present within the selected texts. Each response may vary when it comes to the interdisciplinary focus. The focus will depend of the chosen piece and the field in which the scholarly article comes from.

HIS 132 Honors Project Proposal

My honors project shall focus on the American Socialist movement, and why it has ultimately failed to gain mainstream traction. This will include an analysis from its humble beginnings in the late 19th century, to the large and growing Socialist Party in America pre-WW1, to the election in 1912 where socialist Eugene Debs won a considerable percentage of the vote, to the split between the Communist Party and the Socialist Party immediately after the First World War. World War One will be a major topic within this essay, as it played a significant role in the movement's decline. Following WW1, a continued historical analysis will be provided, including the Red Scare(s), how the Red Scare(s) caused a quick and long-lasting decline in the American Socialist movement, the movement's presence and importance in the Great Depression and later in the Cold War, and possibly an analysis of where the movement stands today, as seen in the cases of the failed democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders and the election of Socialist Alternative member Kshama Sawant to the Seattle City Council. This extensive history and analysis shall be provided in a 12-15 page essay. After the completion of this analysis, a roughly 15-20 minute presentation shall be completed and presented to several audiences. Also included with the essay will be an annotated bibliography. My goals in completing this project will be to better understand the workings of the American Socialist movement, its past failures and successes, reasons

behind these major failures, and how it has impacted American political history. This information will be put into a coherent and presentable format, in the form of the aforementioned 12-15 page essay, 15-20 minute presentation, and required annotated bibliography that will include my various sources of information regarding the topic.

SPA 112 Honors Project Proposal

For my project I will be reviewing Edward R. Murrow's 1960 documentary "Harvest of Shame" and other exposés to review how investigative journalism transformed the American public's perception of Latin American migrant farm workers. I have chosen this topic because of the intersect between my own passion, agriculture, with a Latin American culture that is often overlooked. My educational goal is to obtain my bachelor's degree in journalism with a focus on agriculture. It is vital for me to understand the American history behind migrant exploitation, but to also examine the strategy used by journalists to influence the opinion of their audience. My Honors instructor, Sra. Bryant, has expressed interest in my topic and also has the cultural knowledge to assist me in exploring this topic from many different perspectives. Sra. Bryant has developed an outline that allows me to set dates for various goals throughout the semester. In addition to reviewing the film, I will be doing five annotated bibliographies by the end of November. These will consist of both investigative journalism and peer reviewed journals. Using my annotated bibliographies, I will develop a paper that dives into the journalism while also reflecting on research and statistics. As Sr. Lee has suggested, my final paper will be completed at least two weeks before the Honors Symposium.