

Term Paper

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- Due Thursday by 11:59pm
- Points 20
- Submitting a file upload
- Available Oct 7 at 12am - Dec 19 at 11:59pm

Term Paper (20 points)

Objective:

Write a research paper on an author or work related to our course, developing a clear argument in critical response to questions raised in class.

Research Requirement:

By “research,” we mean that your paper should be framed around a major question or issue you wish to explore. Your goal is to make a persuasive argument supported by both primary evidence (from the text or film) and relevant scholarly sources. Include at least **three outside academic sources** (books, journal articles, or essays by scholars or critics) listed in a **Works Cited** section at the end of your paper.

Paper Format:

Follow the latest edition of the *MLA Style Manual* or *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. For guidance, visit the [MLA formatting website](#).

Your paper should:

- Be **typed, double-spaced**, with **one-inch margins** on all sides
- Include **5–6 pages** of main text followed by a **Works Cited** page
- Be **proofread carefully** for spelling, grammar, and punctuation
- Be **stapled** if submitted in print

Paper Content:

Your essay must be written in your own words and based on your own research findings. **Plagiarism, plot summary, or paraphrasing of secondary sources will not be accepted.** Please follow the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity as outlined in the General Catalog.

Write a clear and well-organized essay that:

1. States a main question or thesis (“problematic”) at the outset.
2. Identifies the primary work you plan to analyze or compare.
3. Examines textual or filmic evidence in detail to support your argument.

4. Engages with existing scholarship to position your argument in context.

5. Concludes with your own critical insights.

While it is important to acknowledge existing criticism, you should demonstrate your own analytical voice by engaging other scholars and maintaining your argument across both primary and secondary materials.

Grading Criteria:

Your term paper will be evaluated according to the following:

- **Originality and depth of textual analysis:** 7 points
- **Command of research and use of criticism:** 6 points
- **Organization and quality of writing:** 7 points

Do not submit a paper written for another class.

Deadline:

Due December 11, 2025, before midnight. Submit through **Canvas** → **Content** → **Term Paper** and confirm that you have uploaded the correct file. Canvas will generate a submission receipt.

If you experience technical issues, take a screenshot and notify your TA immediately to arrange an alternative submission. **Canvas will not accept late submissions or revisions once the assignment closes.**

Reminder:

Always save a backup copy of your paper before submission.