

Paper 2

Guidelines

- You are expected to write with a thesis and argument, providing support for your assertions by citing specific quotes or ideas from your reading material. However, quotations should be used discretely to illustrate your argument. Your thesis statement must be underlined or in bold text.
- Make sure to have an original title for the paper.
- Use parenthesis to make in-text citations. A Works Cited page needs to follow the essay. A failure to acknowledge sources through citations constitutes plagiarism.
- The paper is to be **4 pages** in length (not including Works Cited), double-spaced using Times New Roman 12-point font, with one-inch margins. **USE MLA METHOD OF CITATION.** If needed, consult *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th ed. as a guide.*
- Number your pages.
- Your name, the instructor's name, class, section, and date will appear on the top left hand corner of the first page. **NO COVER PAGE.**
- Staple and secure the pages at the top left-hand corner.
- Your paper is due at the **beginning of class on January 17.** Late work will affect your participation grade and I will not accept assignments more than one week late. Do not send your papers as attachments or do not leave them in my mailbox. For your safety they need to be handed to me in person.
- Grades will be based on four equally important criteria: 1) formulation of intellectual problem/response to topic 2) knowledge of subject/content of the course 3) analysis and interpretation 4) clarity of purpose, organization, language, and mechanics.

REMEMBER: There is a difference between unjustified opinion and a persuasive argument. This assignment requires you to **critically analyze** and **interpret** the readings to persuasively argue your points. It is not looking for a mere summary of the material.

Assignment

Pick **one** of these options and write a 6-page paper, exploring the topic deeply and thoroughly, **grounding it closely in the text.** Use textual examples (themes, quotes, etc.) to provide support for your argument or exploration of the topic.

Option 1

Discuss the significance of the title *The Open City* as it relates to the experience of a globe trotting foreign national in a post 9/11 world.

Option 2

Examine the central message about New York in the short story “Waiting for the Miracle”.

Option 3

Pick a cluster of poems that we have read in class to examine various approaches to race relations. In your analysis include perspectives on the city that offer critical insights into the Harlem Renaissance phenomenon.

Option 4

How do our diasporic writers and poets generate a conversation about immigration? What role do New York and its various spaces play in defining such a conversation?