**Engl. M01B**

**Literary Analysis Essay**

For this assignment, students should select from one of the following prompts as a starting point for a 1,500 word essay that explores the meaning in one of the short stories we have read in class. This essay should include specific examples from the primary source as well as support from a secondary source. **No Internet sources!** Students will learn how to find credible critical analysis essays through our library resources.

*Primary Sources:* A primary source provides direct or firsthand evidence about an event, object, person, or work of art. Primary sources include historical and legal documents, eyewitness accounts, results of experiments, statistical data, pieces of creative writing, audio and video recordings, speeches, and art objects. Interviews, surveys, fieldwork, and Internet communications via email, blogs, listservs, and newsgroups are also primary sources. In the natural and social sciences, primary sources are often empirical studies—research where an experiment was performed or a direct observation was made. The results of empirical studies are typically found in scholarly articles or papers delivered at conferences.

*Secondary Sources:* Secondary sources describe, discuss, interpret, comment upon, analyze, evaluate, summarize, and process primary sources. Secondary source materials can be articles in newspapers or popular magazines, book or movie reviews, or articles found in scholarly journals that discuss or evaluate someone else's original research.

1. Write an essay that explores the central conflict in Joyce Carol Oates “Where are you going, Where have you been?” **or** James Baldwin’s “Sonny’s Blues.” Use the following questions to help with your analysis:
   1. What is the nature of the conflict? When, where, and how does it develop of become more complicated as the story unfolds? How is it resolved at the end of the story? Is this resolution satisfying?