**ENGL 142A: Literature in the World: Migration, Memory, and Multiple Border Crossings in Latino Literature**

Final Research Paper

**Readings:**

* Two literary works (stories, memoirs, narrative non-fiction, etc.) we read this semester from *The* *Norton Anthology of Latino Literature*
* THREE to FOUR scholarly criticism on your primary texts

**Essay Prompt:**

Many Latino writers we discussed this semester focus on migration: its root causes as well as its impact on individual and family lives. Select two favorite authors from *The Norton Anthology of Latino Literature* and explore their aesthetic and stylistic representation of the subject. Then in view of the **similarities** or **differences you observe** in their portrayal of migration, **formulate a thesis** and develop it into a 5-7 page argumentative essay. Your thesis should be clearly articulated and well-supported by textual evidence.

In this essay you are expected to do some research, and I am asking you to read **three to four** secondary sources such as books, dissertation, or peer-reviewed journal articles you deem recent, relevant, and reliable; and drawing from these sources, build your case and/or defend your argument.

Note: For secondary sources, visit university library or search digital databases such as JSTOR, MLA Bibliography, and Project Muse.

**Requirements:**

* Your essay should have *a claim*, provide details in support of the claim, and have a strong *conclusion*. Your claim should weave the various sections of the essay toward a cohesive whole.
* You should draw from three to four sources you identify and locate yourself. At least one of these sources should engage with viewpoints that contradict your claim.
* All of your sources should be preceded by your own introductory words or phrases. Also, after you quote a source, you either discuss or explain it in terms of what you are arguing to show the source’s relevance.
* Create a lively and productive conversation with your sources. That is, engage with the sources in a way that reveals that you have something important to say about the literary works in question.
* Use the sources that best serve your purpose—that is, illuminate your point and advance your argument. Do not heavily rely on sources because such dependence overshadows your presence and marginalizes your voice in your own essay.
* Connect what you want to say with your sources by offering a clear and thoughtful analysis of the sources. If you use/cite sources without fully engaging with them, your essay will become a hodgepodge of ideas.
* Whether a quotation, summary, or a paraphrase, you should integrate your sources into your essay. To this end, use introductory words or phrases such as “According to X,” “While X argues that …, I argue…,” “Among other theorists, X says,” “Unlike X, Y argues that…. However, in view of Z, I maintain that…,” etc.

**Essay Submission:**

* Upload a copy to Blackboard

**Style:**

* MLA format with a header with your last name and page number one-half inch from the top of each page, one-inch page margins, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, and double-spaced.

**Length: 5-7 pages**

**Weightage:**

* Peer-review draft (10 points)

(Note: Please email your essay to your group members for input)

* **Final Drat (35 points)**

**Due Dates:**

* Peer-Review Draft Due: April 16
* Final Draft Due: April 28