**Literary Essay**

***The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman**

Write an expository essay in under 500 words in which you analyze the literary imagery in *The Yellow Wallpaper.* Follow standard essay format, including a thesis statement. With a literary essay, you have some creative license but must still write in a formal voice. Do not include contractions, address the reader or yourself, slang or informal language. What makes a literary essay unique is its exploration of literary evidence to support the argument. Include quotes and integrate them into your sentences. Reflect on what you have learned and explored in class about the theme, the content, the context, and the perspective of and on women at the time the story was written. What symbolism is evident in the imagery and what significance does it have on the greater theme?

**Research Essay**

***The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman**

A research paper is an expository paper that presents facts in a very objective manner. However, it is still organized in standard essay format. The thesis statement for a research paper is less interpretive in content and acts more as an organizing sentence which directs the reader to the path taken in the body paragraphs. It usually lists the three topic areas that will be discussed further within the essay. In terms of support, primary sources must be used as opposed to the work of literature. Your topic is **Mental Illness in fiction.** You will have to synthesize your information so as to create a unified argument. You will research the topic and create a unifying statement that addresses the relationship between the two, fiction and mental illness. Essay must be no longer than 500 words.

**Arts Based Research**

***The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman**

You are a visual thinker, learner, explorer. You get in the zone by drawing. Arts Based Research (ABER) has been described by social scientists as “an unfolding and expanding orientation…that draws inspiration, concepts, processes, and representation from the arts, broadly defined.” Your task is to create a visual work that explores the visual imagery of *The Yellow Wallpaper.* This task should take approximately three hours; it is not a simple doodle. The goal is for you to explore your own ideas and responses to the story visually. Students have explored the pattern changes in the wallpaper, as one example, by closely reading the story again and determining how the paper would change as the viewer, the main character, changes her perceptions.