

Research Essay Topics English 150 Ideal length: 1500 words including works cited page.

This documented essay is due on the last day of classes. I prefer MLA citation but will also accept APA. See your text for formats. You must inform me in writing of what topic you wish to choose—any topic you wish, provided you clear it with me on Feb. 23. Just briefly sketch your approach/thesis. I will let you know by Feb 25 if your topic is acceptable. If not, you will have to choose from one of the following:

1. Compare and contrast any two countries from the following list as possible choices for settlement. Assume language is no problem. Costa Rica, Iceland, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Kenya, Uruguay, Singapore. Other small countries are possibly acceptable as well. See me.
2. "Cask of Amontillado", "The Black Cat", and "A Rose for Emily" as examples of gothic fiction. Start with M.H. Abrams' *A Glossary of Literary Terms* in library.
3. "Capital", "Granite Point", and at least one other story by Valgardson or Stephen Crane as examples of naturalistic fiction. Start with Abrams. See Naturalism.
4. John Donne as a metaphysical poet. Start with Donne section in reader. Discuss at least 3 poems. I recommend "Valediction Forbidding Mourning", "The Canonization", and "The Apparition".
5. Sun-tanning parlours. Good or bad?