Assignment #2- Literacy Narrative, 3-4 full pages. 12 point Times New Roman font double spaced. ***Must*** include a formal outline and a title. First Draft Due on BB on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for peer review. Final draft due in class in print and on Blackboard on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* The process will go as follows:
  + You will take the time to construct your literacy narrative first drafts. Use *NFG* chapter on literacy narrative, the excerpts written by Frederick Douglass, Maya Angelou, and Sherman Alexie, as well as past student essays as your models/guides. **ONLY MICROSOFT WORD DOCUMENTS ARE ACCEPTED. \*\*If drafts are not turned it will reflect in your final grade. If the draft is late it will reflect in your final grade.**
  + Post first draft on BB under the designated discussion board for the peer review.
  + In the peer review workshop, you will work in small groups with other students to review each other’s essays. Each student in your group will read your essay, you will in turn read their essays. You will *physically* write comments on each other’s work. They will do this to yours as well. You will all be constructive but not cruel. You will fill out a checklist and make suggestions for essay revisions.
  + You will hand in the final copy of the essay on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

For this assignment, you are going to examine how your personal literacy history helped to shape the reader and writer that you are today. You will also write a one page reflection paper that describes your rhetorical situation.

Literacy is defined as “the ability to read and write” ([www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/literacy](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/literacy)) and individuals never achieve literacy by themselves, there is always an external influence that helps individuals attain literacy. How we obtain and display literacy is dependent upon society, individual backgrounds, experiences, motivations (where and how we grew up and what we want out of life and literacy). As literate individuals, we never enter into reading and writing activities alone, there is always some external issue, person, structure, standard, history, or belief system affecting our literacy. Professor Deborah Brandt developed a name for these external factors: sponsors of literacy or literacy sponsors (en.wikipedia.org/Sponsors\_of\_Literacy)

Using Professor Brandt’s literacy sponsorship theory, you’re going to reflect upon your own dynamic literacy history and recall examples in order to create your own narrative about obtaining literacy.

**Choose a Topic**

* Narrate an early memory about writing or reading that you recall vividly. Then explain

why this event is significant to you now.

* Describe someone who taught you to read or write and explain this person’s

significance in your life.

* Identify a book or other text and explain its significance for you in your reading and

writing.

* Narrate an experience with a writing or reading task that you found (or still find)

difficult or challenging.

* Describe a memento and explain how it represents an important moment in your

reading/writing development. (bookmark, exam, award, etc).

* Discuss an event or individual that negatively impacted your literacy experience.

**The Reflection Piece**

* Students must make use of the rhetorical terms in *NFG* and the exigence hand out in order to describe their work.
* Describe in terms of (in no specific order)
  + Genre- what are its characteristic features
  + Exigence- what need motivated the writer? The incident which prompts the writer to write <http://grammar.about.com/od/e/g/exigenceterm.htm>
  + Purpose- what did the writer hope to accomplish
  + Audience- who are the potential and intended audiences for this assignment
  + Media/Design- what is the way your information is being conveyed to your audience?
  + Stance- what is your attitude toward your topic
* Answer this: describe how the assignment helped you to achieve the Course Learning Outcomes found in your syllabus. (This means you must ***physically*** refer to the outcomes in your syllabus and answer them in your paper in order to address this.
* Can include a ***brief*** summary on what was the reasoning behind the selection for your topic.
* \*\*The rhetorical situation is NEVER because the instructor made your do it. Dig deeper and come up with some answers. THAT answer is a sure fire way to fail the assignment.

**Key Elements to Consider**

* Create a well told story. Bring your narrative to life by using concrete and vivid

details.

* Develop your main idea. (make sure you only have one main idea)
* Develop the significance or affect of your experience
* Use strong, complete, varied sentences
* Organize paragraphs in a logical way, using topic sentences
* Demonstrate effective, engaging, and clear writing
* Use concrete, vivid descriptions and focus on a specific event
* Consider using dialogue between the characters in your narrative, if you feel

comfortable

* Demonstrate growth and improvement throughout the drafting process.
* Proofread!

**\*\* The rhetorical situation! Refer back to *NFG* pgs 53-68**

**\*\* Pay close attention to *NFG* chapter on literacy narrative as you construct your narrative**

**\*\* See *NFG* or Purdue OWL for how a *proper* MLA heading looks and where the Headers go at the top of the page. The headers, as well as a title at the center of the page, are mandatory! And NO, the title of the paper cannot be “Literacy Narrative,” “Title,” “Paper,” or “Assignment #2.”**