

Art of Fiction
ENGL 273G
Professor Finnell
Spring 2017

Paper #1
Juxtaposing

Due Dates: **Friday February 24, 2017** – Bring 3 copies of your paper to class.

Wednesday March 1, 2017 – Bring 1 final draft AND the previous 3 copies to class

Length: **5-6 pages**

Format: **Double-spaced**, 1 inch margins, numbered/named pages, 12-point Times New Roman font, quotes cited (MLA).

Texts: short stories, stories within the *Warrior Woman*

Topics: Juxtaposition: What do these stories have in common? How are they different? What do these commonalities or differences reveal about the author's **purpose**, the reader **experience**, the character's or society's **assumptions** or the **meaning** of the works as a whole? Analyze these similarities and differences and consider how each author uses/takes advantage of literary elements to meet their intent and goals. Also, you should consider how the texts you've chosen to work with "speak" to each other in a way that will help you explore and develop the key concepts in your essay. **Be sure to use textual evidence to support your ideas, and avoid simple summarization of each text.** Also, always ask the questions "Why is this important? What can I take away from this conclusion?"

1. **Characters** are the pivotal point of a story. Choose two characters and juxtapose either their development or lack of develop, assumptions about reality, journey through life, etc.
2. **Settings** play a significant role in short stories, though they are often viewed as "background information" by the reader. It is important to remember that locations for stories are chosen with a distinct purpose by the author. Choose one of the short stories that we read and juxtapose its setting with that of another short story or *Warrior Woman*.
3. **The Hero's Journey** connects stories to one another through an overarching plot line that has existed in tales of all cultures and times. Juxtapose a short story with the *Warrior Woman* in regards to following the Hero's Journey. How are the heroes similar? How different? What obstacles do they face? What wisdom do they receive and by whom? How do they overcome? And what is the result?
4. **Common Themes, Motifs, and Archetypes** are woven through the works that we have read so far (shame, gender, evil, oppression/liberation, parent/child, paradox, tradition, sacrifice, bravery, coming of age, etc.). Choose a theme that you have seen and been intrigued by in your reading. Juxtapose two different authors' approaches to the same theme. How do the stories reveal similar or different viewpoints and outcomes based around a certain theme?
5. **Point of View** shapes the telling of a story and the reaction the reader will have to it. It colors the whole story in a particular light that is not the *only* viewpoint of the situation. Juxtapose two author's use of viewpoint in their storytelling. Whose viewpoint does the author use? How does this shape the scene? How does it alter your reaction to the scene? Why is this important?
6. **Your own topic**. Craft your own juxtaposition essay using vocabulary, themes, or ideas that you have noticed while reading/class discussion. You may also choose one short story to juxtapose to something that we have read in class. Your thesis should be sent to me by **Friday February 17, 2017** if you want to do this.