**ENC 1141 Research Paper – Poets and Poetry Draft #1 1/27/20; Final Draft Due Jan. 1/30/20**

**Why write about poetry?**

• To help you learn to make a text-based argument. That is, to help you to defend ideas based on a text that is available to you and other readers.

• To help you to understand what you are reading more fully. Analyzing poetry is a way of helping you to see things that you may have otherwise missed simply by causing you to think about how to frame your own analysis.

• To help you enjoy poetry more! This may sound unlikely, but one of the real pleasures of poetry is the opportunity to wrestle with the text and co-create meaning with the author. When you put together a well-constructed analysis of the poem, you are not only showing that you understand what is there, you are also contributing to an ongoing conversation about the poem. (Purdue OWL)

**Your assignment is to develop an argument (thesis) about a poem, analyze it, find out what others say about it, and write a 600-750-word paper using MLA format.**

**Research the poem considering the following:**

* **The thematic content and its significance (what the poem is about)**
* **The poetic terms and devices (allusions, tone, etc.)**
* **Structure, rhythm, meter**
* **Time period – What major themes did the poet use? With which literary movement is the poet associated?**

**Works Cited–All research is online (no books unless you talk to me first) using the articles provided, if possible. Each quotation must include a citation that has a corresponding Works Cited entry. Your Works Cited must have a minimum of 3 sources.**

**Of course, you realize that in the research process you will find a great deal of information about your topic that you cannot and will not use because of the parameters of this assignment. Be discriminating and read the information before you save. Only save those articles that fit the limits of this assignment. Being focused from the outset will save you a great deal of time. Copying all articles into Word will save time.**

**Turn in your final paper to Turnitin.com.**

***[Note: All research papers are written in the third person...always. When writing about literature, use present tense … always.]***

**This paper will**

**1. Utilize the MLA format**

**2. Cite sources parenthetically in text**

**3. Provide a Works Cited at the end of the paper with at least 3 sources**

**4. Be written in third person and present tense**

**5. Be no longer than 3 pages (600-750 words excluding quoted material)**

**6. Adhere to the due dates on the syllabus**