

Emily Balch Seminar: Asian American Popular Culture

Paper Three: Final paper draft (10 points total)

Length: 4-5 pages (please observe the page limit)

DUE: Thursday, 11/19 uploaded to Moodle by midnight

Paper Four: Final paper (revision of Paper Three; 10 points total)

Length: 5-6 pages (please observe the page limit)

DUE: Thursday, 12/10 uploaded to Moodle by midnight

Your final paper asks you to build on the skills in your other writing assignments to complete a longer literary analysis of Karen Tei Yamashita's novel *Tropic of Orange* (1997) that advances a clear thesis statement/argument supported by textual evidence. While you are welcome to focus on one passage in the text, you are also encouraged to compare different passages to one another and/or bring in secondary source material (i.e. Gloria Anzaldúa's concept of the *borderlands*).

You will be given the opportunity to first draft your paper before submitting the finalized version and will receive support during the writing process through a one-on-one meeting with me as well as an in-class peer review workshop.

Paper format:

- Double-spaced
- 12-point font
- 1-inch margins
- MLA parenthetical text citations:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_quotations.html

Resources: Should you need additional help composing your essay, you are encouraged to make appointments with Bryn Mawr's Writing Center: <https://brynmawr.mywconline.com/>

Paper guidelines:

THESIS

- ☐ Advances an original argument that:
 - Is debatable: no clear yes or no, right or wrong answer
 - Avoids generalizations and defines its terms (e.g. “In this novel, nature is cruel”)
 - Has stakes for how we interpret the text as a whole
 - Considers potential counterarguments

EVIDENCE

- ☐ The paper provides an appropriate distribution of direct quotations from the text(s) that are supported by original commentary

ORGANIZATION

- ☐ The paper is structured logically (introduction, body paragraphs, concluding thoughts)
- ☐ The paper has clear topic sentences
- ☐ The paper avoids repeating itself

STYLE

- ☐ The paper has an absence of grammatical and mechanical errors
- ☐ The paper follows all formatting instructions

*REVISION:

Your revision should not simply be making cosmetic edits to spelling and grammar. It needs be a **substantial re-writing of the core ideas in your paper based on instructor and peer feedback.**

Consider:

- Argument: Rethinking and nuancing your overall claim.
- Length: Adding a page or two of content (your revision should be 5-6 pages total).
 - Note: While you do not need to rewrite your essay wholesale, you cannot simply copy and paste large sections from your draft; **each paragraph must demonstrate thoughtful revision toward clarifying and sharpening your argumentative flow and analysis** (Think: the ordering of sentences, word choice, paraphrasing versus direct citations, etc).
- Feedback: Mindfully addressing feedback both from the instructor and your peers; remember that you do not have to automatically agree with or incorporate every single piece of feedback you receive if it does not make your overall essay stronger.