**Assignment 1 – The Portfolio**

Each student is responsible for obtaining and maintaining a process portfolio, or a portfolio that houses all of the work pertaining to the project. This includes, but is not limited to, thesis proposals, annotated bibliographies, rough drafts, peer reviews, research materials, and the final product. The portfolio should be a small binder divided into four sections:

1. drafts and edits – proposals, drafts, and peer review activities

2. research material – secondary sources and annotated bibliographies

3. assignments – rubrics, directions, and assignment details

4. results – final draft

Each aspect of the project will have its own due dates and specific requirements. All individual components will be graded as “short writing” assignments and the completed portfolio will be a project grade.

All students must have a binder and dividers in class on Friday March 3 (A)/Monday March 6 (B).

**Assignment 2 – Thesis Proposal**

Each student is required to compose a one paragraph thesis proposal. The thesis is the main idea of the paper and is usually in the form of an argument. In your thesis paragraph, you must include the name of the text/author (in this case “Macbeth” by Shakespeare), the broader topic that you are interested in pursuing, and the actual thesis statement. You should also include, after the thesis statement, a brief run-through of the topics that you will use to support the thesis.

See sample:

Today, society typically associates marriage with love. People who choose to marry for economic stability or social elevation are viewed with a critical eye. However, this is a relatively new concept. In fact, historically speaking, many marriages were often made or arranged for the purpose of benefitting one or both spouses’ families, financially or socially. It was not only socially acceptable, but often expected, to marry someone for their dowry or for their last name. The very concept of marrying for love was perceived as naïve and impractical until fairly recently. In Jane Austen’s novel, *Pride and Prejudice*, it is clear that for most characters, marriage is not about love at all. In examining the various marriages throughout the text, the three more prevalent reasons for marriage are economic stability, social mobility, and family expectations.

In the sample above, the first few sentences are about a broad topic, ie: the concept of marrying for love in historical context. The author and the title of the text are noted. The thesis argues that in the novel, marriage is rarely made for love; rather, it is often made for other reasons. Then the support is given to show how this paper will be broken down by subtopic.

* Heading/Format must be MLA
* Due: Friday March 3 (A), Monday March 6 (B)