Paper Two

In this paper, you will analyze either Huler’s *No Man’s Land* or Atwood’s *The Penelopiad* as a response to Homer’s Odyssey. (You should have chosen that book and begun to read it as early as August 27). To do so, you should begin by asking yourself, first, what is the central question or preoccupation each author has with The Odyssey and, second, what use do they make of the material?

The answer to your first sentence will be your working thesis (for example, does the novel or essay critique Homer’s view of the hero? Does it cause the author to internalize the Odyssey’s journey of discovery?

The answer to your second question can help you organize the paper. For example, you might examine three or techniques Atwood uses to revise The Odyssey and make a different argument; these could include changing the point of view, adding new characters, giving new information, or changing the focus. In each case, you would compare The Odyssey’s use of the same material to that of the book that is inspired by it.

Remember to show me that you read each book in its entirety. Use quotes and examples from the text, and analyze the text, but do not merely summarize the text.

Dates:

August 27: Choose the novel

October 20: Discussion of paper

November 3: Thesis of paper due

November 19: Paper due