**EN 127 Paper 2 Assignment**

**Task:** In this paper, you will develop your own claim and support it with evidence from the text as you did in your first paper. One difference: **you must use ONE secondary source** (a text that makes an argument about your text, provides historical context, or otherwise relates to your argument) in your paper. Be sure your source is a peer-reviewed article or scholarly book: Use the Mugar website to find texts. Your essay must be formatted according to MLA requirements, have a Works Cited page, and be **between 1,800-2,000 words.** **Please write about only ONE text**, unless you have a compelling argument for comparing two—in that case, please run it by me via email.

You may choose one of the following topics to develop a claim about any of the texts we have read in class. You are also welcome to develop your own topic. Remember the “bottom-up argument”: you can start with a large topic, then find a pattern in the text, then make a hypothesis about that pattern.

-music

-racial identity

-hierarchy (class, race, gender, or other)

-names

-marriage

-nature

-consumption (of food, goods, etc.)

-capitalism

-time

-buildings/architecture/physical space

**Deadlines**

Wednesday, April 10 Send a “bottom-up argument” email by 11:59pm

Wednesday, April 17 First Draft, Peer Review Workshop,

Optional Conferences

Wednesday, May 2 Final Draft Due

Please send your “bottom-up argument” email in the format of the handout from class:

1. **Topic:** Identify a question/theme you notice throughout the book. [Ex: music in *A Romance of the Republic]*
2. **Pattern:** Identify a specific pattern within the large topic. [Ex: the songs Rosa sings before and after realizing she is technically a slave]
3. **So What:** Come up with a hypothesis about how that pattern impacts/changes/undermines the text as a whole. How do *you* make sense of this pattern? Avoid coming up with a “moral” or arguing for what the author’s intention was (as we don’t have evidence for that).