WR 100: Women and Madness in Literature

Paper 3 Assignment

**Purpose:** To develop your own claim from course materials; to prepare for the kind of papers you will write in WR 150; to ask and answer a research question that interests you.

**Assignment:** Write an approximately 2,000-word paper in which you make a claim about Jean Rhys’s *Wide Sargasso Sea* related to our course theme of madness. You must use **at least three argument sources**, and **no more than five argument sources.** These argument sources can be any of the critical essays in the back of our text; you may research other articles or texts, as well, but please email me to confirm that they are sufficiently academic. You have the option to refer to **one other exhibit source** from the semester, but the paper must not be a simple comparison/contrast, and should be primarily about *WSS*.

You have much greater freedom to shape your own research question this time, but you will have many opportunities to hone your argument both in and out of class with peer and instructor feedback. Be sure to write a claim for which you can provide evidence from the text. Remember: the goal is to express complex, engaging ideas in crystal-clear language.

**Guidelines:**

To complete this paper successfully, you’ll need to:

* Identify which argument sources you will work with, and which exhibit source (if any)
* Make a clear, arguable claim
* Provide evidence from *Wide Sargasso Sea* to support your claim
* Spend sufficient time analyzing the evidence you provide
* Ask a question that truly interests or perplexes you about the material, and propose an answer to that question.
* Correctly use MLA format to cite every source you use.

**Due Dates:**

Email research question and the sources you’re considering: Monday, Nov. 6 by 11:59 pm

First draft for Peer Review: Monday, Nov. 13

Second draft for written feedback from Kristin: Monday, Nov. 20

Final Draft: Fri., Dec. 1

**Comments:**

This paper is more open-ended in order to allow you to pursue what interests you in the text. I am happy to communicate via email, office hours, or appointments to help you in determining your claim, the sources you will use, and/or any other aspects of the paper.