**Independent Reading and Critical Analysis- 4th Quarter**

**Assignment: Compose a substantial critical analysis of a work by an English or British Commonwealth author in any multimedia format that shows active reading and research into the biography, history, literary style, and some other aspect of the selection.**

1. Choose a selection from an English and/or British Commonwealth author and read it.
2. After scholarly research, compose a summary and a **critical analysis of the work** based on biographical/historical, political, or psychological **and** formalistic approaches. One of the other approaches to literature discussed in class may be used in place of one of the required critical approaches.

**Schedule:**

**Project Introduction:** April 3 &4 with time in the Media Center to peruse selections available at school.

**Selection Identification:** April 8- commit to the selection and begin to read. Keep notes much like those kept for Macbeth: Summary of the plot, notes on style and use of literary devices, possible commentary on theme, vocabulary notes- this will be collected periodically and graded like homework.

**Selection Summary:** April 29, 2014- Short summary in your own words that shows active reading and understanding of the work

**Critical Research:** April 30-May 2 in E223: Gather, sift, and sort information about:

1. Either the biographical or historical approach to the selection:
   1. Biographical: The author’s life in relation to the reading selection
   2. Historical: The time period of the work or the author in relation to the selection
2. Formalistic: Literary devices used to create the selection as an artwork of literary merit:
   1. Theme
   2. Motifs and symbolism
   3. Character development
   4. The role of the setting
   5. The development of the plot and conflicts
3. Archetypal, sociological, philosophical, psychological, or feminist analysis of the selection

**Project due/Presentation:** Turn in your project on May 9st. Present your summary and critical analysis of the work with your multi-media aide during the week of May 9-16th.

**Format of the final project:**

Multi-media projects may take any form that is not a hindrance to other presentations and is appropriate to a survey of British Literature. You may choose to create a visual supported by a presentation, a PowerPoint which supports a presentation, a collection of journals with a presentation, a film which supports a presentation, etc.

The presentation must be rehearsed, 3-5 minutes in length, feature quotes from the independent reading selection that represent it, include the critical approaches used for research, and a full bibliography of research read during the process. If a source is quoted or paraphrased, it must be cited.