

**5-6 pages, APA documentation.**

Write an persuasive argument of 5-6 pages in which you relate the roles of “landscape, history and the...imagination” to contemporary perspectives of nature, both sacred and profane. Your primary source will be Silko’s novel *Ceremony* with critical emphasis on Tayo’s relationship to nature. Four other sources will include two essays from *The Nature Reader* and two other sources (approved by me) that you obtain from library research.

For this essay, try your hand at APA documentation format, for which your reference will be Chapter 35 in Troyka. Don’t guess; get familiar with the format and how it differs from MLA.

Your thesis will be a debatable claim which is backed by supporting points (reasons). These points, represented by the topic sentences of your body paragraphs, will, in turn, be supported by evidence from your sources (body paragraph content).

Since your audience is the academic community, tailor your diction accordingly. Assume that your readers have not read the above articles and essays.

Use signal phrases (lead-ins) whenever possible to announce source material. Use APA-formatted parenthetical citations as appropriate (Troyka, Ch. 35)

As you plan and develop your essay, refer to Troyka’s *Handbook for Writers*, the *Cortland Composition Handbook* (reading and examining the structure of the examples provided), class notes, and the synthesis hand-outs for information on the process of synthesis and essay development. Your essay will be 1200-1400 words in length (3-1/2 - 5 pages of text).

The final page of your essay will be a “References” page in which you record information about your sources **in APA format**. To construct and format the “Works Cited” page, see Troyka, Ch. 33.

Submission should include organized, cited notes for all sources, complete word-processed outline with thesis and citations, submission draft and word-processed earlier draft). A draft without a References page is incomplete. A submission not having the following elements will not receive an acceptable grade.

**Schedule and checklist:** Assigned: October 30.

Due: No later than in class, November 29. Don’t ask for an extension.

**Important:** As soon as you begin preparing notes, keep all related materials in a single folder. In this folder, bring work in progress, including all notes, worksheets, outlines, drafts, charts, handouts, and evaluations, to each class, conference, and peer editor meeting. I want to see both your progress and your process throughout all stages of the assignment. From the day the essay is assigned, I will accept no work not in a dedicated, labeled folder. Your adherence to this requirement will impact the final evaluation of your essay.

As you prepare for, and undertake the development of, this essay, you are expected to familiarize yourself with the argument and research process by referring to Troyka, *Cortland Composition Handbook*, and other relevant resources. If you have questions about planning your essay, I expect you to bring them up in class. Conference time can be best spent with your word-processed work in progress.

## Caveats:

- Do not uses phrases like "In today's society, "in today's day and age," "we as society," "throughout history" or other weak, vague generalizations. Don't use the pronouns "I" or "you."
- Avoid clichés, street talk, jargon, and lazy speech. Be specific and engaging. Reach for the right word; use the dictionary and thesaurus. Watch out, however, that you do not use inflated, overblown, stilted language.
- Your language should represent you and your thinking in an academic world. Eschew both speech that is too informal and conversational, and speech that is too technical, obscure, and abstract. Communicate concisely and effectively.
- Don't take shortcuts in the essay-development process. As always with source material, prepare substantial, organized notes—both objective and reflective--before you begin outlining and working on the first draft. I will look at no draft not in a folder, word-processed, and accompanied by full preparation materials. Keep assignment in your folder and refer to it often.

## Supplementary Requirements

### Mechanical Requirements

- 5 to 6 pages; Use a standard default font (Times New Roman, Helvetica, Arial); font size 12.
- Do not use a cover page.
- Title your essay. Center title above beginning paragraph, no quotation marks, no underline, no larger or boldface font.
- Use approximately 1" margins, double space between lines.
- At the top left-hand corner of first page only, record your name, Essay #2 , CPN 101, and Section #. This block only should be single-spaced
- Number all pages, including the Works Cited page.
- Your essay title (or an abbreviation) and page number should appear in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
- Staple together pages of each draft, with the References page being the last page. Number all paragraphs.
- Submit in a plain top-tabbed vanilla manila folder labeled on the tab with your name, section number, and essay number (3). In the folder, include all components: notes, outline, drafts (identified as Draft #1, etc.), and any evaluations. Your final submission should be on top.
- Bring work in progress in this folder to each class and conference.
- Use proper grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and other conventions of good academic writing. Yes, spelling counts. Write with a dictionary nearby. Do not use the computer's grammar checker; its suggestions are often incorrect and ill-advised.

**Important:** In order to get a satisfactory overall evaluation for this essay, you must satisfactorily complete and submit all components of the assignment, including notes, worksheets, outlines, prior drafts and any assigned evaluations. Careless, sloppy, or insufficient work will not be accepted. Less than college-level work will not be accepted. Take pride in your work—stay organized and put your best effort into this essay. I expect you to write in complete sentences that make sense, and that are organized coherently. I am not your proof reader, nor should ASAP tutors or your roommate or relative be your proof readers. You learn skills by practice; ask any coach. Use Troyka to resolve grammar questions. Good arguments require good evidence, so find good sources.

*Reading has two faces, looks in two directions. One direction is back, toward the source and original content of the signs we are deciphering. The other direction is forward, based on the textual situation of the person doing the reading.*

– Robert Scholes (*Protocols of Reading* 7)