WRITING ASSIGNMENT #4: Antigone Essay (200 points)

DUE DATES: 
- Tuesday, 5/10—Worksheet with at least 5 academic resources you plan to review for use in your paper (25 pts.)
- Tuesday, 5/17—First Draft (for thesis and progress check—6 pages)
- Thursday, 5/26—Final Draft (Day of Final Exam, 11:10 a.m)—minimum 6-8 pages plus Works Cited page w/ at least 3 sources, plus Antigone (200 pts.)

NOTE: Essays received more than 30 minutes after the final exam begins will receive a 5 point deduction. No late essays will be accepted after the final! No exceptions.

Your last formal essay of this semester will involve writing a research paper of at least 6-8 full pages in which you address one of the topics given below. As you write your essay, you must incorporate evidence (quotes, details, examples, etc.) from the play to support your arguments and your own ideas. Also, you are required to supplement and enhance your own points with ideas/information from at least 3 outside sources (a combination of library database sources, internet, books, academic journals, etc.). To link your points to your thesis and add your own insight to the information you include from the play and the academic sources you’ve used, be sure you develop sound analyses and clear explanations.

Remember to quote and cite all your sources correctly using MLA guidelines. Quote lines from the play as if you are quoting a poem. Also remember that you must include the author and line numbers that come from in the play you are referencing (i.e.—Sophocles 304-309 or Sophocles 981-990, etc.). Finally, along with properly quoting in your essay and citing your supplemental sources on the Works Cited page, don’t forget to cite Sophocles’ Antigone, including the translator’s name, in your Works Cited page (see MLA guidelines).

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ESSAY TOPICS

Topic #1

The German philosopher Hegel stated that Antigone represents the tragic collision of right against right, with both sides equally justified. Do you agree with this assessment of the play? Why or why not? Analyze and discuss the conflict between Antigone and Creon as you argue your position on this issue.

Topic #2

In his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," Martin Luther King, Jr. writes, "One may well ask, 'How can you advocate breaking some laws and obeying others?' The answer is found in the fact that there are two types of laws: There are just laws and there are unjust laws." Do you believe this perspective of "just" versus "unjust" laws is what Antigone is attempting to argue as she fights for her right to bury her brother? Why or why not?

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Keep in mind that this essay is worth up to 200 points and that your grade will be determined by how well you have met these important criteria:

1) an effective introduction with a developed grabber, transition idea, and thesis
2) an original and solid thesis statement that addresses one of the essay topics
3) an **effective conclusion** that wraps up your main argument and leaves the reader with a lasting thought

4) **accurate** use of information/specifcics from *Antigone AND at least 3 reliable academic sources* to support your points

5) **insight and sophistication of analysis and discussion** (Show your own ideas, analysis, and insight!)

6) **development and completeness** of your supporting ideas (Be sure to explain your ideas/points completely.)

7) **unity** of ideas (All your information and ideas must **stay focused on your thesis**. Also, stick to using information that supports-supplements your thesis and major supporting points.)

8) **coherence** (Ideas in your essay and within your paragraphs must all be linked/connected for a smooth flow.)

9) **organization** (Ideas and evidence must follow a logical organizational pattern.)

10) **clarity and presentation**—word usage, sentence meaning, logic, format, structure and so on

11) **spelling, mechanics, grammar, sentence structure and variety, and other mechanical aspects** (Your essay should be **error-free** and should **follow essay guidelines**.)

12) an **original and creative title** for your essay

13) a **correct and accurate Works Cited page** (using MLA format/standards) citing the play (as a translated work) and a minimum of 3 supplemental resources.