

Literary Period Presentation

ENG 153 Intro to Literature

T/R 12:30-1:45

Dr. Alison Witte

Assignment

This assignment is a group presentation project in which you will work in small groups of 3-4 to introduce a particular literary period to the group. Your presentation should include: (1) key themes and topics of the period, (2) key historical events and philosophies that influence the period, and (3) key works and authors of the period. Your presentation should prepare the class to understand the historical and literary context of the readings in the upcoming unit.

What should the Literary Period Presentation do?

Your presentation should help prepare the class to engage in the next units readings by giving them insight into:

- The general date range for this literary period (Note: this is general because many periods overlap and have disagreement about when they begin and end)
- The historical context
 - What's going on in history during this period?
 - Wars, Inventions, Disasters, Pop Culture Fads/Practices, Economy)
 - What is the general state of affairs in the world?
- The philosophies that are influential or popular during this period
 - What are the main worldviews? (Is the earth flat or round?)
- The main types of literary works in this period and their features
 - Genres
 - Themes
 - Subjects
- The important works and authors in the period
 - This does not have to be an exhaustive list, but should include authors or works you see referenced many times

Your presentation is meant to be informative and help the rest of the class put the works they are about to read into some kind of context.

What should the Literary Period Presentation look like?

You are expected to take between 20-25 minutes to make your presentation. You have lots to cover and you need to cover it clearly and relatively quickly. For planning purposes, 10-15 text-based PowerPoint slides will take most if not all of the time.

Your presentation should include a visual component and a handout. You are welcome to use the computer in the classroom or to bring in your own if it is HDMI compatible. You are also welcome to bring in artifacts, images, etc.

Questions???

If your group needs help getting started or needs additional resources, contact me to set up an appointment and I can give you some direction.

Assessment

This assignment is worth 20 points (10% of your final grade). The following rubric will be used to assess your facilitation.

	Content	Delivery	Media
Excellent (18-20 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation covers ALL the major topics (date, historical context, philosophies, types and features, works and authors) in meaningful detail The presentation shows evidence of substantial additional or outside research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation is clear, concise, and easy to follow All group members directly participate in the presentation in a balanced way. The presenters use multiple means of conveying information. (Worksheets, handouts, PowerPoint, video, etc.) The facilitators have prepared in advance and are ready to lead the class when asked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The visual component is well-designed, easy to read and follow, and adds to the presentation The handout is well-designed and easy to read and follow All media are free of major errors in spelling and grammar
Successful (14-17 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation covers ALL the major topics (date, historical context, philosophies, types and features, works and authors) in some way, but some sections are stronger than others The presentation shows evidence of additional or outside research, but has a spot or two that could have used more attention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation is clear, concise, and easy to follow Most group members directly participate in the presentation in a balanced way, but 1 or 2 dominates or fades into the background The presenters use multiple means of conveying information. (Handouts, PowerPoint, video, etc.) The presenters have prepared in advance and are ready to lead the class when asked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The visual component is generally well-designed, easy to read and follow, and generally adds to the presentation but has some unnecessary or repetitive information The handout is generally well-designed and easy to read and follow but has some unnecessary or repetitive information The media contain a few major errors in spelling and grammar OR several minor errors
Unsuccessful (Less than 14 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation covers some of the major topics (date, historical context, philosophies, types and features, works and authors) in some way, but only a few or no sections provide any meaningful information The presentation shows little or no evidence of additional or outside research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only some of the presenters directly participate in the presentation OR one person dominates the presentation. The presenters use a single or no organized means of conveying information. The presenters do not appear to have prepared in advance OR are not ready to lead the class when asked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The visual component is poorly designed, difficult to read and follow, and/or has lots of unnecessary or repetitive information The handout is poorly designed and difficult to read and follow and/or has lots of unnecessary or repetitive information The media contain several major errors in spelling and grammar OR numerous minor errors

After the facilitation, you will each fill out a Group Assessment Form that will allow you to let me know your role in the facilitation and how the group worked as a whole. I will then assign a grade to each group member, based on my observations and the Group Assessment reports. Groups will also receive feedback from me.