

Objective / Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is for you to transfer your knowledge of the Hero's Journey to another text independently. As with the aphorism writing, another objective of this unit is for you to apply the Hero's Journey to your own life. What quest are you on? How are you the hero of your own journey?

Description: This project is multi-genre with considerations for differentiation. There is a reading element (your chosen text), 2 writing elements (a Hero's Journey analysis of your text, and a personal reflection about your own quest), and a creative component. Detailed expectations regarding all of these are included below. We will spend approximately 4-5 weeks in class on this project. You may have to use time outside of class to complete this project; however I have allotted plenty of class time. Whether or not you have to work outside of class will depend largely on how effectively you use your class time.

Project Schedule: This timeline is for your benchmarking purposes only. You may finish certain parts earlier or later than this schedule, but this should give you a rough idea of where you need to be and when.

Week of 9/22: Reading – Be 1/3 to ½ of your way through your book by Friday.

Week of 9/29: Reading – Be 2/3 to finished with your book by Friday.

Week of 10/6: Finish reading /work time. You need to be completely finished with your book and starting on your tasks by the end of this week.

Week of 10/13: Work time. To avoid working over the weekend, you need to be finished with all of your tasks by the end of this week.

Week of 10/20: Revision of writing tasks (workshop) and project presentations.

Choosing a book for analysis: Books must be approved by Mr. Wiese in advance. **You must have a book chosen no later than 9/22.** I have a list of some titles that I think are appropriate for analysis, but you should choose something that interests you because you will be providing an intense analysis of it. If you choose a book you only “kind of” like, you’re going to dislike the project, which will in turn lessen the likelihood that you will do “A” work. Stay away from trade paperbacks / teen lit. Ideally, the book you choose will be something you might encounter again in a college class. Do yourself a favor and get a book started the week of 9/15. I will try to leave the last 2 days of that week for you to begin reading. Do yourself another favor and don’t pick a book that is excessively long; time is limited. I would like your book to have a minimum of 180-200 pages.

Grading and Description of tasks / assignments:

Process Work (25% of total grade):

- **Work / Participation:** I need to be able to put at least 1 grade in a week for you. I will do this the first 3 weeks with a “work/participation” grade.
- **Notes / Annotating:** Whichever you prefer. You will need a way to keep track of the archetypes and stages of The Hero's Journey in your book.
- **A completed “17 Stages” Chart:** Fill it out as you go to keep you on track and to keep the stages of the journey straight.
- **Other Considerations:** I will have blank copies of the archetype and Hero's Journey handouts for you to use. You cannot use these to replace any of the above, but you may find them helpful.

Hero's Journey Analysis (30% of total grade):

In at least 3-5 pages, you need to give a detailed Hero's Journey analysis of your chosen book. Start with a brief synopsis of the book (1-2 paragraphs), and then get to your analysis. End your essay with some closing remarks. This may vary, so I'm going to keep it open. For example, your book may stray from the HJ in a significant way; your closing might explain why you think that happens. Your closing paragraph might also include ways the author could have made the story more interesting by adding elements of the HJ. These are just a couple of examples. Ultimately, your closing will depend on your deep analysis of the book. Remember, the purpose of a quest is always self knowledge.

Keep in mind that I only gave you 2 versions of the Hero's Journey - the Vogler article (A Practical Guide to Campbell's Monomyth), and the 17 stage handout. Those are just 2 semi-scholarly versions. There are many more, some with as many as 27 stages. Additionally, I'm after your analysis. You are the expert, and I promise that you are more intelligent than the average internet blogger. Use the internet sparingly and with caution. You are not required to use any outside resources, but if you do, be sure to cite them.

Other requirements: MLA style (double-spaced with 4 part heading and page numbers).

Creative Component (25% of total grade):

There are several options available, so be sure to tap into one that will best utilize your interests and strengths. Keep in mind that this needs to be the creative equivalent of a 3-5 page paper. These will also be presented to the class.

- An artistic / visual representation of the Hero's Journey cycle and your book: On poster board (at least 24 x 36) create a cyclical map of the HJ and the way your book follows it. You must label the stages and the archetypes, but the rest of the artwork is at your discretion.
- A piece of short fiction: In 3-5 pages (or more), write an original short story that incorporates the HJ cycle. You need the cycle and the archetypes, but the story line and the quest is all you.
- A Prezi – With the HJ cycle of your particular book + the archetypes. You would also need some type of artwork / images to engage your audience during your presentation.
- A movie / short film: This could go a couple of different ways - a re-enactment of your book or an original script. The HJ cycle and archetypes need to be represented. This could also be done with partners or in a small group.
- Other Considerations- I am willing to consider other ideas for the creative component. Keep in mind that the overall project must show the HJ and the archetypes represented somehow, either in your given book or in an original form. This might take the form of: a website (such as Weebly or Wix page), an original song (or series of songs), a poem, or poems, an interpretive dance, a board game..... whatever. If you have something in mind, run it by me and you and I will come up with expectations and a rubric.

Your Hero's Journey / Personal Quest (20% of total grade):

In 3-5 pages (MLA Style), I want you to apply the stages of the HJ and the archetypes to your life. This might be a quest that you've already been on, or it might be a quest that you are currently in the middle of. What was your ordinary world? How did you receive the call to adventure? Who were your allies? Your shadows? What was your talisman? What were your tests? Your supreme ordeal? –etc. Follow the monomyth cycle and the archetypes. Refer back to the Vogler article and to the archetypes handout, and keep in mind that the archetypes may or may not be people; sometimes they are elements of your personality and subconsciousness. Last but not least, remember the purpose of a quest is always self-discovery / self-knowledge. What did you come away from your quest with? How did your quest help you better understand yourself?