

## Week 6 Assignments

As we move toward the midterm, we have three major events coming up. First, the novel, followed by the midterm itself, with the first paper due right after. These three things should be a culmination of the first half of our course. The second half of the course will be more regularized than the first and should include more continuity from week to week.

### Week 6 Lecture

Your posted lecture tries to incorporate a few ideas from last week's readings with some notes on the novel (this specific novel and novels in general). I hope that, in lieu of a lecture or as much engagement last week, we can transfer ideas and confusions forward as we deal with this week's assignments. While our theme this week is Americans Abroad, we are still dealing with the fallout from war here, which helps these two weeks fit together.

### Reading the Novel

Since we have no new readings next week (because of the midterm), I am going to extend the time you have to read, process, and write about the novel. While I hope that you can get the novel finished before the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, **the final due date for DB posts will be Tuesday, Mar 1<sup>st</sup>**. I hope that this gives you enough time to read and think about the novel.

### Week 6 Discussion Board

This week, we will have our third Discussion Board adventure. Like our previous DB, I will expect a complete and detailed response of **no less than 600 words**. Here's the assignment:

For DB this week, choose some aspect of the novel to focus on and use details from the novel to explain why it is interesting or important. You can think technically (plot, character (one or several), setting, narration) or thematically (the importance of bullfighting, the fishing section, impotence, war). If you would like to mix it up, that is fine, **but I hope that if each of you tackles something you find interesting or important, we can come up with a larger picture of this novel**. As an aside, I hope that you don't all post on the same topic or issue (you usually don't): if you think a topic is over-discussed already, it could be more interesting to add something new to the table.

To spice things up even more, if you see any connections or oppositions between the novel and last week's readings on war, you can also bring that up or try to work it out. This component is not required, but if you think that comparing would make your post fit more with your interests, please feel free to do so.

I'll also ask you to, as usual, **respond to two posts**. Your responses can be another place to bring up specifics from the novel or relate ideas back to last week's readings. It might make sense to wait for several posts to appear before responding, but I don't want you to have to wait, since getting the conversation going is important.

### Week 6 Quiz

I usually give a quiz on novels, but because the DB is involved this week, I'll use your responses to judge if you have read. In other words, I'll be looking closely, so take your time to craft a post you feel satisfied with. The point: NO QUIZ.

### Week 6 Reading Questions

Instead of a separate document of questions, I'll include some questions for consideration with the lecture this week. I won't, however, breakdown as specifically. I want you to approach this novel in a more holistic sense, so directing your attention would defeat the point. Expect to find questions with the lecture.

**Midterm Review**

I'll be posting a midterm review this week which should help you prepare for the midterm exam. I'm still working out the final logistics of **how** I will administer this exam in a fair manner, but I know what the exam will be. Thus, you can use the review, once posted, to guide how you prepare for the midterm. The review will include the specifics of how the midterm will unfold.

**Paper 1 Topics (Reminder)**

Remember, your first paper topics are posted under Course Information in Blackboard. While not due for a few weeks, you may want to take a look to see what you will get yourself into. Since you have a bit of breathing space here, it could be a good time to take a hard look and get started on your papers.