Final 102 Documented *Beloved* Paper

Explication de Texte: a method of close analysis of a literary text concentrating on language, style, context and / or textual relationships.

Your final paper will be an explication de texte. The paper is due Friday, April 30th by 6pm. In your paper you may address Morrison’s style or a specific set of characters. Or, you may choose to focus on specific issues in the novel or even relationships. You must deal with Morrison’s *Beloved* in your paper. You need three sources for this paper, *Beloved* and two outside sources that discuss *Beloved*. Do not bring in any other novel. Your sources must be literature sources. These MUST be found in JSTOR and MLA databases through the MSU library website. This should be an English paper, not a History or Sociology paper.

Please be mindful that this is also a research paper. This means you must use direct quotes ONLY. You will need at least two quotes from *Beloved* and two quotes from your outside sources. Remember you must use proper in-text citations, as well as a Works Cited. If you only have direct quotes from the novel, and none from your research, your paper will fail.

Your final paper must:

* Be at least 5 pages long. (about 11 paragraphs) The outline and Works Cited do not count in page count.
* Be typed in 12 point Arial. This section is 12 point Arial.
* Be double spaced.
* Have your outline in the same document as your term paper.
* Have a thesis at the end of your introduction containing 3 controlling points.
* Be documented with in-text citations.
* End with a Works Cited, never a Bibliography.
* The document order is outline, then paper and finally Works Cited.

You should:

* In your paper, focus on *Beloved* and your theme.
* Find a theme that runs through the book and explore it in your paper. Possible themes for your paper include, but are not limited to:

Dysfunctional Families in the novel

Examination of three women in the novel

Examination of three men in the novel

Motherhood in the novel

Mother / Daughter relationships in the novel

Infant Images in the novel

**You may not use the following topics:**

No essays about numbers in the novel allowed.

No essays about color in the novel allowed.

There are papers online that cover both of these two topics. Please remember plagiarism will be harshly graded.