

Post-Liminary Research - Extra Credit
Due December 11th, 2015

"Whenever there's intrusion, there's disorder, there's turmoil, and there's threat. An intruder is always threatening. The very word intruder reflects a form of threat. I've noticed that the word intrusion is often used by psychoanalysts, in relation to phenomena that arise in someone's conscious mind, in a violent, menacing, and hallucinatory manner."

- Jean-Luc Nancy

The following is a 'Post-Liminary' research exercise, to be completed by **Friday, December 11th, 2015** (the date of our final exam). As you write, please pay a great deal of attention to your choice of active verbs. Choose verbs which will most accurately and effectively convey your ideas. In addition, choose appropriate transitional language to give clarity to your writing at every stage. Please devote a good deal of thought to this important element of communication throughout this assignment, as doing so will help you a great deal. Finally, please avoid using the second person in your writing (you, your, yours).

Essay Instructions:

Please revisit the "Preliminary Research Part One" assignment that you completed for me in September. Carefully review the seven tasks included in the **Essay Instructions**, as well as the accompanying rhetorical recommendations which I provided there, and give some thought to how these tasks and suggestions helped you to explore, focus, and express your various reactions to the film so effectively. Once you have done so, please carefully reread your written responses to each of these tasks. When you have finished with both of these steps, please do the following:

1. Give some thought to the Syrian refugee crisis that has been in the news since the end of September.
2. Give some thought to the recent terrorist attacks in Paris that have been in the news for the last two weeks.
3. Think about these two news stories in light of both the film *Vers Nancy* and your written response to it. More precisely, how did engaging in this assignment shape your understanding of these events as they occurred?
4. Think about your original take on the film in light of these recent events. More precisely, have these events reshaped your initial ideas and what you wrote at the time in any way?
5. In light of your response to the above, and in light of your current and future academic concerns, please create a new list of 'tasks' for yourself, with specific rhetorical recommendations in mind.
6. Write a paragraph or two in response to each of these tasks and suggestions.
7. Include a final paragraph or two about how this assignment has contributed to your understanding of the nature of research over protracted periods of time. As part of your conclusion, please say something about the crucial role that rhetorical modes (patterns of organization and intelligibility) play at all stages of research. Please be as specific as possible.

Important

When you turn in your final research papers, please include two copies of this assignment, and two copies of your original essay on *Vers Nancy*. Please remove all personal and course information from one copy of each assignment, as I will be providing these to the First Year Writing Program for evaluation. As always, please include all of your work in a two-pocket folder, with your name written on the front.