

**“Thoreau & The Topics of Composition” - Portfolio I**

**Due: Wednesday, October 7th, 2015**

For this portfolio, I ask that you complete the following important tasks with our overall course goals and itinerary in mind. Please write formally, but in a way that will allow you to express yourself most comfortably:

I). Please choose one paragraph from each of the four chapters that we have read thus far, and devote a page of written reflection to each. As you address each of these paragraphs, please include the following considerations:

- What most interests you about this paragraph, and why this is so
- Questions that you still have about the form or content of the paragraph, and how you would like to address these questions in the near future
- Questions that you might have about the paragraph as it relates to *Walden* as a whole, and how you would like to address these questions in the near future

II). Please compose three questions for Jeff Cramer, addressing each of the following subjects in any configuration that serves your purposes and concerns:

- His thoughts about Walden the place as it has been mediated by *Walden* the book
- How he might be able to address one or two of your concerns as addressed in your four chapter analyses
- His personal or professional recommendations regarding your academic areas of concern as these relate to your current understanding of *Walden*

III). Please write a paragraph or two about your favorite ideas that we have addressed in the course thus far. These can be drawn from the reading, the class discussions, the films, or all three. Please address the following in your writing:

- Why you find these ideas interesting in the context of our study of *Walden*
- Why you find these ideas important in the context of your academic concerns
- Which aspects of these ideas you would like to pursue in the near future, and why you believe doing so could help you both personally and academically

**Please give me your masterpieces in a thin folder, with your name written clearly on the front :)**