Humanities 1A Spring 2014

**Literature and Arts Research Project**

**Part I: Topic**

This assignment is the first part of a 3-part essay project. In order to learn the various parts of prose writing, this project allows you the freedom to arrive at a topic of your choosing, and gives you the opportunity to engage more deeply in some research about it.

You may choose from any of the major reading segments in the class, including: *The Epic of Gilgamesh*; assignments from *Genesis or Exodus*; *The Odyssey*; or any of the Greek tragedies. To begin the project, please go through the readings, and from these readings, select a topic that one might write about. Suggestions of topics include:

*Gilgamesh*: friendship, the role of gods/goddesses, or the role of the harlot/prostitute

*Genesis*: the role of God in the story of creation and the flood, or the relationship of Abraham, Isaac and God

*Exodus*: the role of Moses

*The Odyssey*: the role of women, the role of the gods/goddesses, Odysseus’ longing for his home, customs and rituals, etc.

Tragedies: *Agamemnon, Antigone or Medea* (Possible topics will be discussed in class.)

For your written assignment, begin by stating the topic you have chosen. This may be in the form of a question you will ask and attempt to answer. Then write three separate paragraphs, each of which describes a different and distinct point of view (or position one might take) with regard to the topic or question. Do no more than formulate the three points of view in paragraph form. Your later assignments will develop from this point.

Your entire assignment should be no more than two pages in length. Your next assignment in this 3-part series will focus on thesis formulation, choosing research materials, and preparing a brief annotated bibliography.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them.

ASSIGNMENT LENGTH: 1-2 PAGES, TYPED, DOUBLE-SPACED

DATE DUE: Wednesday, March 12