451 Final Project

For this final project (worth 25% of your final grade) you have four options.

1) **Term paper:**
Choose a topic of interest from the material we’ve covered in class &/or in the text. Investigate it fully and report your findings.

2) **Apply Linguistics to Literature:**
Comb one specific author’s work for linguistically relevant details. Perhaps:
   a. use of syntax (creatively &/or characteristically) for rhetorical purposes
   b. use of sociolinguistic factors (eg dialect & pragmatics) for character development &/or rhetorical purposes
   c. patterns of word creation (morphology)
   d. language creation (morphology, phonology, syntax, etc)

3) **Service-Learning:**
‘Service Learning’ implies that you, the researcher, become an active participant in a study-able situation (tutor a non-native speaker of English, volunteer in an after-school reading program or something similar). Observe, reflect and report from a linguistic perspective. (Carries a 3% bonus for increased difficulty)

4) **Study Replication:**
Choose a linguistic study related to (a) what we’ve studied in class AND (b) your own interests. Replicate the study (a smaller scale is OK). See if the results hold true for a different time/population/situation. (5% bonus for increased difficulty)

**Requirements:** *(for any of the options above)*
- 8-12 pages (reference page & appendixes don’t count)
  - But… shorter is better than BS…
  - MLA format + Times New Roman, 12 pt., double spaced
- Minimum of 4 academic references (peer reviewed journals &/or books)

**SUGGESTIONS:**

Talk to your classmates (&/or me) about your research throughout the research process… *(Two heads are better than one…)*

You should begin this project WELL in ADVANCE of the due date… All of the options above are designed to require you to use mental muscles you’ve never used before… Give those muscles time to develop!