

On-Going Research Diary Assignment

English 621 | Krause | Winter 2005

Eastern Michigan University

During the course of the semester (and potentially beyond as you work on your project), I will ask each of you to keep a research diary (or journal or memoir or account, whatever wording you want to use) about your reading and writing projects this semester. While the requirements for this will remain somewhat open (see below), I will ask you to keep this writing as a blog and I will require you to post to this space at least once a week.

Here are some of the details:

- To facilitate this, we'll be using blogger. Don't worry; blogger is a super easy system for keeping a blog and I will show you virtually everything you need to know for our purposes during class on January 18.
- I am not going to set fixed requirements on the length of your postings, and as long as at least one of your postings during the course of the week demonstrate some reflection on the reading and on your progress with the writing assignments, you can post about whatever else you want.
- **However, you must post to your blog space once a week until the end of the semester.** My goal here is to promote a work habit that is key in the process of research writing and MA thesis/project writing: you've got to work on it a little bit every day.
- While not required, I also encourage you to read each others' blogs and to post comments to them as appropriate. After all, one of the purposes of writing a blog is to have others read it. Along these lines, keep in mind that your blog is a "public forum," literally accessible by anyone connected to the Internet.