



Harvard University  
Department of Comparative Literature  
Dana-Palmer House  
16 Quincy Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA



## **THE JUNIOR TUTORIAL REFLECTION ESSAY**

At the end of the first semester of junior tutorial, each student is asked to write a 3-5 page reflection essay as the final first-semester tutorial assignment. The essay serves as a lead-in to the work of the second semester of junior tutorial, which focuses on the research, drafting, and writing of the junior essay. Although the essay will not be formally evaluated, it will be reviewed by members of the department and the tutorial board.

### **The Assignment:**

Please write a 3-5 page essay that reflects on the intellectual interests of the first semester of junior tutorial and anticipates the second semester and the work of the junior essay in particular. What texts and topics have been most generative? Are there thematic or theoretical issues that have come into focus? Is there a particular mode of research or methodological approach that has been especially productive? How might you funnel those interests into a specific research topic which would provide the basis for your junior essay? Please offer 1-2 research questions that might guide your essay topic and provide an annotated bibliography of 3-4 primary and/or secondary works that might focus your junior essay project. You may include different media in the list and are encouraged to include at least one work from a non-English literary tradition.

This essay will provide the basis for the junior essay proposal, which is due approximately 4 weeks after the start of the second semester of junior tutorial.