ESSAY TWO // ROGERIAN ARGUMENT
ENGLISH 1A + FALL 2015

IMPORTANT DATES
#  Week 7 OR 8: Meet with an instructor/tutor during your WRC lab to discuss a specific question about your essay.
#  10/19 (MW) or 10/20 (TR): Bring two copies of a complete, typed draft to class for a Peer Review Workshop.
   Incomplete drafts will result in a 5% reduction of your final grade on this essay.
#  10/21 (MW) or 10/22 (TR): The final Draft should be submitted to Turnitin.com by the start of the class period.
   (We are going electronic for this one!) Your stamped first draft and Peer Review are due in class.

Rogerian argument is based upon facilitating trust and cooperation. Both sides need to be heard and understood and acknowledged. The use of neutral language reduces the threat and allows for listening. With the use of neutral language, intimidation is replaced by trust, critical thinking, and collaborative thinking. With the identification of common ground and values, the possibility for cooperative solutions emerges.

For Essay Two, choose two articles that directly respond to each other while taking different positions on the same issue, and write a Rogerian argument that discusses both sides fairly, presents common ground, and proposes a solution that would satisfy or benefit both sides. You may choose one of the following pairings:

A. “The Case for Reparations” (Coates) and EITHER “The Case Against Reparations for Slavery” (Epstein) OR “The Case Against Reparations” (Williamson)
B. “Lean In: What Would You Do If You Weren’t Afraid?” (Sandberg) and “Dig Deep: Beyond Lean In” (hooks)

Your purpose is to analyze the essays to understand the authors’ main points of disagreement and to suggest ways to build common ground based on shared values, concerns, needs, and interests. Though this essay will involve comparing and contrasting the articles you choose, that is not the end goal. Your aim is to understand the arguments well enough to propose points of compromise and a potential solution or resolution, which should be reflected in your thesis.

REQUIREMENTS
#  This essay needs to be a minimum of 1750 words (this will take you at least to page 6). Any words on your Works Cited page do not count. Make sure to list the word count at the end of your essay. If an essay does not meet this minimum requirement, the highest grade it can earn is an F (Range: 0-59%).
#  Refer to the Essay Grading Rubric included in your syllabus as you plan and write this essay. To earn a passing grade, a C, your essay must meet the minimum standards for a competent college-level essay. Essays that exceed the minimum requirements will earn higher grades.
#  In addition to the essays required by the prompt you choose, you are required to use ONE other reputable source. This means that your final product should have a minimum of THREE sources cited parenthetically in the text and listed on the Works Cited page. If your essay does not meet this minimum requirement, the highest grade it can earn is a D.
#  To prove your thesis, you will have to use your arsenal of evidence – summaries, quotes, and paraphrases, all meticulously and correctly cited.
#  Your final draft should have fewer than 10 grammatical errors. If there are more than 10, I will return the essay to you, and your essay will not be graded until you meet this requirement.
#  Write in the third person point of view.
#  Your final product should demonstrate appropriate use of various They Say/I Say templates.
#  Proper MLA format, in-text citations, and a properly formatted Works Cited page are required.
#  Don’t forget to list the word count at the end of the essay.

ORGANIZATION GUIDE
¶1 Intro: Hook / Introduce the debated topic and the articles and authors / Thesis (try to keep this on page 1)
¶2-3 Summary of Articles (1-1½ pages MAX)
¶4-6 Points of Common Ground (about 2 ½ pages)
¶7 A Possible Solution: this is a good place to use your third required source! (½-¾ page)
¶8 Conclusion: SO WHAT? (about ½ a page)