

Honors Project Proposal

My honors project for American Literature I, if approved, will be a fifteen page research paper featuring in depth analysis of two significant works from the period being studied during the course, Mary Rowlandson's *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God*, which is an example of captivity literature, a uniquely American literary genre, and James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*, an historical novel set during the French and Indian War. My research paper will be a comparison of Rowlandson's nonfiction account with Cooper's fictional narrative in order to examine each author's portrayal of the lives and the relationships of Native Americans and colonists.

I have already begun reading *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God* and will begin reading *The Last of the Mohicans* shortly. Following my initial reading of each work, I will review my notes and the works themselves in order to glean the best examples for comparison and contrast. I will utilize scholarly literary criticisms as sources for my paper, which I will find through online databases such as Literature Resource Center and Literature Online. I will also make use of numerous print sources featuring critical essays of the two works. These will be obtained from LCCC's Rothrock Library and/or other local college libraries.

I will follow the timeline outlined on the course schedule for the second research paper and will be responsible for meeting that deadline, which is November 23, 2010. I will be entirely responsible for finishing the readings, conducting my research, and writing my paper in a timely manner. I will, when necessary, seek the advice and solicit suggestions from my mentor while working on this project.