

Details of Writing Assignments

A. Write two short **book reports** of around 500 words each, one on each of the first two novels read in class, briefly summarizing both the content of the story and your responses to reading it. The deadlines for the book reports are:

War of the Worlds **The second class in November (Thursday 11/15)**
Prester John **The second class in December (Thursday 12/13)**

B. Write an original **academic paper** (with appropriate critical apparatus) in English of around 1500 words on ONE of the topics below.

1. Compare any TWO of the three novels read in class in terms of ONE of the following:
 - a) their genre, setting, style AND theme;
 - b) their representation of gender, race OR social class;
 - c) their relationship to Christianity, Darwinism, OR Imperialism;
 - d) their treatment of the theme of science & belief, life & death, mind & body, civilization & barbarism, OR home & abroad.

2. Compare and contrast any ONE of the three novels read in class with ONE of the following:
 - a) at least one other novel by the same author;
 - b) a novel of the same genre but written in a different country (e.g. America);
 - c) a novel of the same genre but written in a different historical period (e.g. now);
 - d) a version of the same story in another medium (e.g. film).

3. A topic of your own choice as long as it is broadly relevant to the theme of the course. Please consult with me if you are uncertain whether the topic is appropriate.

The **academic paper** should be submitted by the last class of the semester (**Thursday 24th January**) at the latest,

EITHER to the instructor in class,
OR via the report box outside the SILS Office (with green cover attached),
OR to the e-mail address below:

E-mail: glaw@waseda.jp

(as an attachment in MS Word etc; reply sent to confirm receipt)