

ENG 106  
Serializing Fiction  
Dr. Adam Abraham  
Spring 2024 (Block 6)

## LITERATURE REVIEW

DUE: Friday 1 March by 4:30 pm  
Attach a file and email to [aabraham@cornellcollege.edu](mailto:aabraham@cornellcollege.edu)  
In the subject line write "LITERATURE REVIEW"

In preparation for the final project of the block (the prospectus), each student will select and research one serialized narrative television show. A literature review is a critical summary of the state of knowledge of a given topic. Many fields, including law, medicine, journalism, and the natural sciences, required summarization; the ability to summarize a text with clarity and confidence is a valuable one.

Each student will summarize a minimum of three sources. Four or five or more sources may be appropriate. One source should be a peer-reviewed journal article (to be explained in class); one should be an article from a newspaper or magazine (print or online editions); and the third can be another print or electronic source. However, do not choose book reviews. If you find an interesting book review, then locate the book and read one of its chapters.

Write one paragraph (roughly 200 to 300 words) on each source that you discover. Imagine that you are writing the middle of a longer essay. You do not need an introduction and a conclusion. Each paragraph should include the following:

0. Transition from the previous paragraph (except for first paragraph).
1. The title and author of the source.
2. A summary of the main ideas, arguments, and evidence.
3. One or more quotes from the text, with parenthetical citations. Thus: (327).
4. Some errors, weaknesses, and/or omissions. What is missing here? What is left for future researchers?

## REQUIREMENTS

- Use a normal, 12-point font, with serifs, such as Times or Times New Roman.
- Double-space EVERY LINE. Double-space is not single-space or space-and-one-half.
- Write in multiple paragraphs. Indent each new paragraph. Do not skip lines.
- Follow the conventions of edited American English unless there is a good reason not to. When in doubt, consult *The Chicago Manual of Style*.
- In the upper-left corner of the first page, include the following information:

Your Name

ENG 106

Date

Literature Review

- On the lines below that, centered, include the following information:

Title of TV Show

Original Network

Year(s) of Original Release

Logline (one-sentence summary of the show's content)

- At the end of the document, include a list of Works Cited, in MLA format.

## GRADING

- Literature reviews will be scored in two areas: content and expression. *Expression* refers to English grammar, spelling, punctuation, MLA formatting, and the specifications on this document.
- Each literature review will get a score from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) in each area.
- The instructor will return the assignments with copyedits and comments, which you will then incorporate into the prospectus during Week 4.
- If you want more guidance, feel free to visit during office hours or set an appointment.

## SERIALIZED NARRATIVE SHOWS

From the US and the UK, 1978 to the present. These are some representative shows that might work for the assignment. Based on *Birth of the Binge*, by Dennis Broe (2019).

*Dallas*

*Knots Landing*

*Dynasty*

*Hill Street Blues*

*St. Elsewhere*

*Moonlighting*

*Twin Peaks*

*The X-Files*

*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*

*Oz*

*The Sopranos*

*Curb Your Enthusiasm*

*Rome*

*The Office* (BBC)

*Six Feet Under*

*24*

*The Wire*

*Firefly*

*The Shield*

*Deadwood*

*Lost*

*Desperate Housewives*

*Veronica Mars*

*Battlestar Galactica*

*The Office* (NBC)

*Weeds*

*Friday Night Lights*

*Mad Men*

*Burn Notice*

*Breaking Bad*

*Fringe*

*Dollhouse*

*Justified*

*The Walking Dead*

*Homeland*

*Downton Abbey*

*Game of Thrones*

*Orange Is the New Black*

*Peaky Blinders*

*House of Cards*

*The Americans*

*Silicon Valley*

*Gotham*

*Mr. Robot*

*Better Call Saul*

*Jessica Jones*

*Goliath*

*Westworld*

*Stranger Things*

*The Crown*

*Succession*

*The White Lotus*

*House of the Dragon*

*Wednesday*