

LITS2306 HISTORY OF CRITICISM**SEMESTER I, 2015-2016****TERM PAPER**

The Term Paper is based on Module One: Classical Foundations.

Answer **ONE** of the following questions:

1. What do you understand by the term 'philosophy'? Answer by exploring the views of EITHER Plato OR Aristotle.
2. What do you understand by the term 'rhetoric'? Answer through close reference to the views of TWO of the following thinkers or groups of thinkers:
 - The Sophists;
 - Aristotle, "Rhetoric";
 - Quintilian, "Institutio Oratoria."
3. What do you understand by the term 'literary theory'? Answer through close reference to the work of TWO of the following literary theorists:
 - Plato, The Republic, chapters 9, 35, 36 and 37;
 - Aristotle, "Poetics";
 - Longinus, "On the Sublime."
4. "Plato's disdain for literature and his resulting desire to banish poets from his ideal state are inseparable from the broader philosophical views on the nature of reality, knowledge and the self expressed in The Republic." Discuss.
5. Referring closely to Aristotle's Poetics throughout, identify the emotional impact of a novel or play of your choice and discuss the precise role played by the plot and the characterisation especially in the production of this effect.
6. Is it justifiable to describe Longinus as a "rhetorical theorist of literature"? Answer through close reference to his "On the Sublime."

DEADLINE: 5 pm, Thursday October 29, 2015

LENGTH: 10 pages maximum (typewritten, double-spaced)

CLOSE READING: In your answer, you should refer closely to the primary source(s) (poems and/or literary theory) by the writer(s) in question.

ESSAY WRITING: It is your responsibility to submit a *well-written* essay in response to one of the questions listed above. Please note that LITS2306, like all other Level II and III courses in Literatures in English, is not designed to teach you how to write an essay. It is assumed, rather, that you are equipped with the basic skills of essay writing of the sort tackled in the Level I Foundation Language courses. If you have problems,

severe or otherwise, expressing yourself on paper coherently and correctly, please seek advice as to how you may fix them. Please also consult my Essay Writing Guidelines posted online for essential advice on putting your term paper together.

PLAGIARISM:

UWI requires that all students print, fill out and attach the Plagiarism Accountability Statement to all written work submitted. Please download the handout from my homepage or elsewhere on the Cave Hill website. No submissions will be accepted without it.