Final Essay Instructions

What to know before writing

- When you get the prompt, read the essay instructions carefully.
- You have until the end of class to finish your essay.
 - o If you finish early, you may leave early—but quietly.
- Put your name on the cover of your green book.
 - That's all you need there.

-Put a **title** at the head of your essay

- Make sure you follow the instructions (announced in class right before the final) to prevent cheating.
- <u>Double space your essay</u> (skip every other line). If you forget, don't worry or tell me—just start double spacing. You can write on one side or both sides of the page—as long as the ink doesn't bleed through.
 I prefer pen, but pencil is ok.

What to know about your writing

• Since some people write big and some write small, it's difficult to say exactly how many pages to write, especially when some students are using large green books and some have small ones, which are significantly smaller.

- Experience and the law of averages tells me to expect this with large green/bluebooks:
 - Most essays will probably be at least 7-8 pgs (remember: double spaced)
 - Some might be as long as 12 pgs.
 - o Some might be less than 6 pgs—these tend to be too under-developed.
- Quality and specificity is better than quantity, repetition, and lack of specificity.
- Neat is nice, but messy is ok; being legible is what matters. Credit can't be given to words that aren't legible.

What to do when you finish

Please turn in your work as follows:

Note: Please pack up (your backpack, etc.) after turning in your work.

- 1. Check that your **name** is on the essay prompt sheet.
- 2. Staple the essay **prompt** to the top of your **notes**.
- 3. If you have no notes, write "no notes" on your sheet.
- 4. Slide this stapled packet into your green book, so you aren't leaving with the essay question or your notes, and leave those materials (your prompt, your notes, and your essay) with me.