The four themes used in this class:

1. Man’s relationship to himself
2. Man’s relationship to his community
3. Man’s relationship to Nature
4. The role of undeserved suffering in the human condition

Response papers

- These should not try to summarize the work. Incorporate the necessary points as examples which support your own opinions about the topic.
- They should be an attempt to explain the author’s intentions or motivation behind the work.
- Finally, these response papers may introduce ideas that you may choose to develop for your 4-5 page midterm and final papers. However, they do not require elaboration for the purpose of these assignments.

General Tips

- The most valuable thing any student can bring to a paper is his or her self. Honesty, therefore, is highly valued.
- Keep in mind that all papers are opinion papers; however, there is a specific format you must follow when presenting your ideas for this assignment and for longer papers.
- The strength of every paper is housed not within its ideas but in the presentation of those ideas: whether or not the reader sees your point of view is up to you.
- Spelling is important because it affects the writer’s credibility. The same can, obviously, be said about grammar.
- Use simple, everyday, language rather than attempt to create something formal. There’s no need to try to sound super-educated - unless you naturally write flowery, your writing will come off as pretentious.