Essay Assignment Two

Essays are due at the beginning of lecture on Tuesday, Nov. 21st. The essay should be a minimum of five full pages in length (no more than seven) in the Humanities format* and a counterargument is required.

Respond to one of the following prompts:

1. Both King Lear and Montaigne’s Essays explore how people react to misfortune in their lives. Do Shakespeare and Montaigne agree on how a person should react to misfortune? Why or why not?

2. Of the relationship between artifice (that which is man-made) and Nature, Montaigne writes: “What I am suspicious of are the things discovered by our own minds, our sciences and by that Art of theirs in favor of which we have abandoned Nature and her rules and on to which we do not know how to impose the limits of moderation” (“On the resemblance of children to their fathers,” 210).

   According to Shakespeare and Montaigne, are there limits to what artifice may accomplish? Why is this so?

3. In Shakespeare's King Lear, Albany remarks to Goneril: "How far your eyes may pierce I cannot tell." (Shakespeare, King Lear, 1.4.368)

   According to Shakespeare and Montaigne, what is the relationship between what you see and what you can know?

Submit a paper copy of your essay to your TA in a plain manila folder with your name on it. Include all your previous Humanities papers in the folder. Before submitting a paper copy at lecture, you must submit an electronic copy to www.turnitin.com for text-similarity review. Information about that will be distributed and discussed in section by your TA.

Late Essays: One day late is -10% (one letter grade). Two days late, -20% (two letter grades). Papers will not be accepted after two days.

*All handouts are available in the Humanities Custom Handbook and online (http://revelle.ucsd.edu/humanities/resources/writing-resources.html).