We are down to the last few days of class!

Here is the reading for today and tomorrow:

NPR:  Read through this site for information on our final essay: http://www.npr.org/series/4538138/this-i-believe

Day 16:  Yeats p. 522, 524, 525; Neruda pp.583-598;

Day 17:  Marquez pp.986-992; Thiong’O pp. 1037-1048; Kincaid p. 1144

Writing:

The final essay will be narrative in format.  It will be due Friday by midnight.  Please remember that you can visit any of the teachers in the Writing Center for assistance with this essay.  Also, please remember to email me with any questions. The narrative and prompt are on the Files section of Canvas.

**World Lit II**

**Writing Workshop #3:  This I Believe Essay**

"I should not talk so much about myself if there were anybody else whom I knew as well"

Thoreau, Walden

"Do I contradict myself? / Very well then, I contradict myself./ I am large.  I contain multitudes"

            Whitman, "Song of Myself"

**Purpose:**

 This assignment will develop your ability to produce an essay that demonstrates the following:

\*an understanding of your own unique approach towards experience

\*a well crafted argument rendered precisely and appropriately narrowed

\*an understanding of how you connect to bigger ideas and larger purposes

\*an understanding of how ideas can be arranged logically and rendered concisely

\*a mastery of language and voice

**Preparation:**  classroom discussion, personal experience, class texts, and other author’s prose.

Structure:  Narrative, indirect thesis, 1000 words

\*Include a description of a subject that is clearly described using vivid imagery and description

\*Include description that is very well organized.  One idea or scene follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions

\*Use action to convey the image.  Rely not on your own memories, but place the reader in the immediacy of your memory so that we experience along with the subject

\*Rely on anecdote, dialog, and careful story to convey the characterization

**Requirements:**  See Narrative l rubric on website-- understand your assessment as you draft.

**Prompts:**

* Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their life story would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
* Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.
* The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
* Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
* Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?