

“The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win.”  
— Karl Marx, The Communist Manifesto

College writing focuses on the ability to be able to write about the unfamiliar and from various viewpoints, some of which we may not be familiar with. To write from a “critical lens” perspective thus, is to have a primary source (i.e. research) to provide information that manifests an original thesis statement.

For the second paper/in class writing assignment, you are required to use a quote/perspective from the essay “The Manifesto of the Communist Party by Karl Marx. For a critical lens essay, the quote goes in the introduction, as a lead in to your thesis statement based off that quote (i.e. in PIE form, the “I” is the quote and the “E” is your thesis statement)

You will apply the lens to at least ONE of the readings/films from this unit and write an argumentative essay. Think about the arguments made in both the secondary and the films. What are some common themes between both works?

Possible Topics to Choose From:

- Social Class
- Depiction of the Poor
- The Rich
- The Symbolism of Time and Money

Questions to Consider:

- What commentary are the works making about the economy?
- What are the “limitations” in society to “equal” everything?
- Are certain actions justifiable? (Stealing from the rich to give to the poor?)
- What are communist ideals that could function in society?

This essay needs to have an intro, conclusion, and at least three body paragraphs.

The first revision of this essay will be due Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.