

Part II: (50 points).

Each essay is worth 10 points. You are required to do 5 (five) of the 6 (six) essays below. Upon completion of Part II of the final exam, please upload to the appropriate drop box labeled: **ENG 201 Final Exam: Part II (Short Essays)**

*****DO NOT EMAIL the exam to me.**

Directions: *Respond to each question in 250- 300 words (MLA Documentation 12pt font). Please respond/ ANSWER the entire question. You are expected to use examples from the text to support your answers.*

1. *Ramayana of Valmiki* places great importance on the role that women play in the work. Compare/Contrast the role of women in this work to **two** other texts that we read this semester in class. How do they differ? How are they the same? Consider the treatment of women in the ancient epics to that of women today; discuss the changes and our similarities that one might find to be true of women's roles today.
2. Above the entryway to the Delphic Oracle for Apollo is inscribed the words "Know Thyself." Oedipus's biggest flaw is said to be the fact that he does not know himself, but to what extent is he responsible for this? Even though Oedipus blames Apollo for bringing his sorrow to completion, he takes responsibility for losing his sight. Does Oedipus deserve his fate, if he is, what, then, is he responsible for, and what does the audience learn from the experience of the play?
3. Shakespeare is said to have raised the question of honorable and ethical death versus suicide by madness or by mandate throughout *Hamlet*. *Do you believe that Ophelia's death is accidental? Why or why not? Is it possible that the parents of both Hamlet and Ophelia are to blame for their children's melancholia and erratic behavior and ultimately their demise?*
4. Discuss three significant traits that distinguish the *Wife of Bath* from other fourteenth-century Englishwomen. Considering the description of "The General Prologue," how is the Wife of Bath's tale in particular, appropriate for the teller?
5. Using The *Lais* of Marie de France to inform your discussion, support or refute the following statement: Love and honor are simple concepts, inherent to humanity, which lovers and underlings make inordinately complicated for themselves.
6. Explain the concept of the frame narrative in reference to *The Thousand and One Nights*. What other connections and/or comparisons can you make to other literary works?