**Essay #1: Literacy Narrative** (*The Norton Field Guide*: Chapter 10) and **Reflection/Self-Assessment** (15%):

For this assignment you will write about if and how your city and the environment in which you grew up impacted your relationship to literacy and your identity. Feel free to be creative with the format of this assignment if you would like. Then, while referring to the essay rubric and considering rhetorical terms, you are tasked with writing a Self-Assessment/Reflection on your experience writing a narrative essay and discussing your rhetorical choices. ***(See description of Reflection/Self-Assessment assignments in the “Other Assignments” section of this syllabus.)***

**Word Count**: Essay – 750-1000 words | Reflection/Self-Assessment – 250 words (size 12 font, Times New Roman, standard margins, double-spaced)

Due: **Monday, September 19th**

Things to keep in mind as you write your Literacy Narrative:

* A narrative is a well-told story, often with a situation that needs to be resolved.
* A narrative contains vivid detail, including sensory descriptions to allow the reader to imagine the same experience.
* A narrative will end with a significant resolution.

Use the following criteria when assessing your and your classmates’ essays. I will be using the same rubric when I grade the final drafts.

* Have you explored the **meaning** of your literacy event/events in a way that will interest your audience by making connections between your personal experience and a larger theme? Have you provided enough information so the reader will understand the story and the significance of your literacy event/events? Are you clear about what happened? Do you have a purposeful theme to tie into the story?
* Have you created a **setting** that allows the reader to imagine the experience? Have you described how New York City and your environment impacted your literacy event?
* Is there a recognizable **structure**? Are the various ideas in your essay brought together, or does the essay seem disjointed?
* Have you provided **specific details** that help the reader understand your subject? Does your narrative contain adequate details? Would photographs, drawings, or other visuals help your reader get a better sense of your subject?
* Do you provide a **closing action** and reflection on the significance of the event? Have you considered in what way it affects your life now?
* Does your narrative have an engaging **title**?
* Have you **proofread and edited** your piece for grammatical and punctuation errors?
* Have you submitted a 1-page **Reflection/Self-Assessment** along with your final draft?

 ***All essay assignments are to be submitted digitally through Blackboard.***