PAPER FOUR: EDUCATION AS (LIBERAL) ART

In order to graduate from Texas State University, students are required to take a minimum of 120 semester hours, enroll in classes specific to their majors, and also complete a general education core curriculum. This core curriculum is an effort toward a liberal arts education: its goal is a “well-rounded” student, knowledgeable about more than just his or her chosen major.

Now that you are in your first semester of college, think about your schooling experiences in high school and in college. You may notice some differences and similarities between the two. Reflect on the ideas about education presented in the essays by Freire, Feynman, and Okakok (reading assigned and discussed for this unit).

Prompt: Compare and contrast your high school learning experiences with your college learning experiences. Which learning environment do you prefer overall? Refer to precise, specific examples drawing from your personal experiences.

Here are potential areas on which to focus:
- Outcomes
- Teaching approaches and styles
- Learning styles
- Course focus
- Methods of assessment
- Workload
- Structure
- Settings of learning experience

A note on compare/contrast essays: Remember to make a claim that justifies your preference for one learning experience or the other (high school or college). Because you are using a point-by-point organization strategy, each paragraph should illustrate with examples about both learning environments while also evaluating which one you prefer.

Required Organization: Point-by-point organization strategy (modeled in class)

Length: 3-4 pages

Audience: Instructor and students of 1310; broader academic community (especially those studying education)

Format: Use MLA Style to format paper (see BH)

Drafts for Peer Review due: see Course Calendar

Final Copy (with PR materials): see Course Calendar