Oral Presentation

You will give a short presentation to the class that exemplifies your ability to think creatively and critically about a work of literature on our syllabus. This assignment is worth 20% of your grade for this class, and you will be evaluated on your preparation, composure, organization, and content. The presentation should last 5-7 minutes with a short Q & A to follow. Presentations will begin when we return from Spring Recess, but I will post the presentation schedule on the blog within the next few weeks. I do suggest, however, that you start thinking about your project sooner rather than later.

Pick one from the following two choices:

Choice One
Art Piece: Show and Tell

I would like you to present a work of visual art (ie: a photograph, painting, poster, etc.) to the class. The image will be the focus of your brief talk and you will be expected to leave it up on the screen for the entire time that you speak. Though you may use notes, you may not read your presentation. The goal of this assignment is to engage the class in a visual exploration of the idea, or image, that you are sharing. Although I am offering some guidelines, you are welcome to be creative with this assignment. You should consider this an opportunity to share something new with your classmates inspired by the texts we are discussing though not directly related to them. For example, if you want to discuss Athena from the Odyssey, do not show us a portrait of the goddess. The image you present should not be a straight depiction of the literary work.

Guidelines to follow:
1. Tell us the title, artist, time period/genre of the image that you are sharing.
2. Give us a little background about the image (hint: Wikipedia is great for this).
3. Tell us why you chose this particular image – in other words, what inspired you to pick this piece.
4. Describe the image for us in your own words – interpret, for us, what you see on the canvas.
5. Tell us why it relates to our class, ie: theme, style, color, content, or something completely random and personal (hint: there are no wrong answers to this one).
6. Using the text, make direct connections for your classmates between the two works of art, and ask them to respond to the image as well.

Choice Two
Facebook Page and Profile

I would like you to build a Facebook profile for one of the gods or goddesses or monsters we have encountered in the works on the syllabus. The Facebook profile will be the topic of your presentation, and you will justify the reasons for selecting the subject’s likes and dislikes, etc. You will lead the class through your profile during the presentation and may
use notes, but not read from a prepared text. The goal of this assignment is to “humanize” a non-human character. Although I am giving guidelines to which you must adhere, you should be creative with this assignment. You should consider this an opportunity to share something new with your classmates inspired by the texts we are discussing though not directly related to them. For example, if you want to build a profile for Athena from the *Odyssey*, do not select elements that are too “on the nose.” Give her a human identity, while keeping Homer’s depiction of her in mind. You will be expected to defend your choices with the text.

Must-haves:
1. A full name
2. A place of birth
3. A birth date
4. Education (ie: schools, and majors)
5. Occupation
6. Three favorite movies
7. Three favorite books
8. Five favorite musicians
9. Interests list
10. Three shared posts and two personal posts.

You may work in a group of 3 for this assignment, but each member will have to create their own profile for a different character and you will have to justify why you are friends and how you met. You will present your work individually but at the same time.