ENGS 5G: What is Literature?
Helen Scott
Fall 2016

Final Assignment: Critical Analysis of Colm Tóibín’s *Brooklyn*.
To be submitted by Friday, December 9th

**Six pages / 1500 words**
This assignment is the culmination of the class and its goal is to demonstrate what you have learned in the seminar. We will work on the essay in stages throughout the semester, isolating and practicing the specific components of literary analysis and making full use of the **writing process** of discovery, composition, drafting, revision, editing and proofreading.

The final draft of the essay will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- Addresses a specific, manageable and relevant question, drawing on class discussions;
- Follows a clear organizational form and develops paragraphs and sentences that are conventional and expressive;
- Conforms to the conventions of the discipline of English Literature (see links below);
- Develops a thesis about the novel based on debatable claims and supported by
  - **textual evidence**—reference to, analysis of, and direct quotation from the primary text—and
  - **secondary evidence**—sources that provide relevant context, including socio-historical materials (life in mid century Ireland, history of Irish immigration to NYC, scholarship on immigration...) and/or literary critical articles (critical assessment of Tóibín’s work, interviews with the author, reviews of *Brooklyn*...).
- In addition to the readings provided in the course, **you are responsible for locating and using two of these sources**.

[https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/616/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/616/01/)

[http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/rwc/handouts/writing-for-english-courses-1](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/rwc/handouts/writing-for-english-courses-1)