

The Last Assignment

Alfred Nobel (1833-1896) was a Swedish inventor of armaments who amassed quite the fortune. In his will, he requested that prizes be established in chemistry, literature, peace, physics and medicine, with economics being added later. The Nobel Academy oversees his wishes (and finances) and identifies recipients of this very prestigious prize. Annually, they send out applications to selected academics and potential recipients, and various committees select the winners in each category. These prizes are international, come with financial recognition, and are awarded once a year in the fall.

The ultimate recognition for an author is the Nobel Prize in Literature. These winners are called Laureates, and there are a bunch of them. As this is a class about world literature, it would be a shame to ignore the cream of the international writing crop. With that in mind, you are going to put together short presentations on the Nobel Laureates in literature.

Go to the following website and select your laureate.

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/

Selected Laureates must have written in a language other than English. This means that most winners from USA, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, etc. are off limits. Once you have selected your laureates, add their name to the google.doc (I will create). There can be no repeats, so first come, first served. Fortunately, there are many amazing writers available! My recommendation is that you do some research first and identify a winner whose work is appealing to you, either by genre, location, motivation, etc.

What will you do for your presentation?

1. Examine their bio
2. Present why these individuals received their prize (laureates have tags next to their names indicating why the committee selected them).
3. Locate some of their writing, read a bit of it, and get a flavor of it.
4. Put together a short power point (4 slides?) focusing on these topics. Make sure your presentation has the following:
 - Dates: birth/death/award
 - Nationality
 - Genres
 - Why the prize was awarded
 - A flavor of their writing
 - Works consulted page

This assignment is due 1/17 and 1/20. It is worth 30 points.