

English 10 Extra Credit Opportunity

***Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?* Essay**

Over the four-day weekend, you have the opportunity to earn some extra credit. Rent or borrow a copy of the Cohen Brothers' film *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?*, a modern interpretation of *The Odyssey*, and create an essay which compares aspects of the film to the original text. This essay should be typed or neatly handwritten in blue or black ink, and should be a minimum of 500 words.

Suggested topics- use one of these, or a variation, or one of your own:

- Characters- compare a character or characters from the film with their counterparts in the original text. Who are they, how are they similar and/or different? What do they represent in the film?
- Theme- what themes are similar in the film? How do the filmmakers interpret themes from *The Odyssey*? What changes have they made and why?
- Symbolism
- Chronological events- what events or sequences (if any) are identical in the film and the text? Which are different yet still recognizable? What specific choices might have been made by the filmmakers and why?
- Creatures encountered in the film and the text- how are they similar/different? Does the film add any new symbolic relevance to these creatures based on how they are portrayed?
- The Journey of Telemachus in the text and ? in the film
- Odysseus vs. Ulysses Everett McGill
- The Hero's Journey in the *Odyssey* vs. the film