

21W.735 ASSIGNMENT 2
SPRING 2010

READING ~2 hours—to be done before the next class (Thursday, Feb 18):

- Edward Abbey, *The Serpents of Paradise*
- HD Thoreau, *Where I Lived and What I Lived for*

These are further examples of “landscape” essays. And might be candidates for the “canon” of the American naturalist essay.

- skim it
- read it
- what did you think? what do you connect to it? find more connections.
- document in your 21W.735 journal

SIGNIFICANT DRAFT OF LANDSCAPE ESSAY ~6 hours—to be done **before** Wed, Feb 17:

Tests for *significance*:

about 6 pages in length

can be considered “complete” even if it is rough

may have occasional blank spaces with “magic happens here”

Please spam all of us via e-mail with your draft on Tuesday so we can have read your draft before class on Thursday (Feb 18). Best is to provide us with .pdf or plain text so that we can be pretty sure we can all decode the file.

DRAFT SCRUTINY ~6 hours—to be done before the next class (Thursday, Feb 18):

- Read the essay drafts of your colleagues.
- In your reading journal, respond to these drafts. What do you like. What do you not understand? What would you suggest be changed? How does this essay fit in with all the other 21W.735 essays and your understanding of the world?
- As author, note (in your reading journal) the most pressing questions we can answer about your essay.

TALK TO DAVE ~20 MINUTES—to be done before the next class (Thursday, Feb 18):

please bring your learning goals and reading notebook

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Expect Tuesday classes to focus on writing and Thursday classes to focus on reading. As a result of two missed Tuesdays (Feb 2 and 16), the reading will be only lightly addressed until the end of the month.
- Expect the final draft of the landscape essay to be due on Feb 25.