The American dream Synthesis Paper

The idea that America provides equal opportunity to achieve one’s dreams is something that this country was founded on. In the age of exploration, people migrated to the “New World” for the freedom to pursue whatever they wished. As time has gone on, however, the American dream has become far more complex and limited. This theme is one of the cornerstones of American literature.

A synthesis paper is written about a central idea that includes evidence from multiple outside sources the author uses to help prove his or her point. The author’s goal is to present a seamless, coherent argument by interweaving multiple sources. The first step in the process is for the author to get his or her opinion on the topic solidified. From there, he or she must evaluate what the sources have to say about the topic. Finally, the author must arrange his or her ideas logically and clearly.

For this assignment, your task is to comment on the attainability of the American dream through the examination of the following texts: *The Great Gatsby*, “Winter Dreams, “The Inheritance,” “Of Age,” “Notes from Money and Morality: Searching for the American Dream,” and “Why Every American Should Read *The Great Gatsby*, Again.” YOUR opinion will drive this paper; however, your use of text from these other sources will provide support for your opinion.

Text Requirements:

Of the six possible sources (the novel, two poems, two essays, and short story), you must USE five of them. This means that the works are actually cited throughout your paper. Also, all five are listed on your Works Cited page. By doing these two steps, you will avoid plagiarism. “Winter Dreams” can be found in our textbook, and you should still have your novel. The others were given in class as handouts. If you need other copies, see me.

Paper Restrictions:

In total, the body of your paper should be 3-5 pages in length, double spaced, size 12, Times New Roman font. You will need a title page, outline, and Works Cited page as well. ONLY an electronic submission to turnitin.com will suffice this time.

Every BODY paragraph will need a minimum of two citations. This means that you must use the text heavily in your argument. Be sure to integrate the text into your writing so your paper does not sound like a listing of other authors’ points.

Due Date:

This paper is due Friday, November 3. It is worth 200 points (100 points for content/ 100 points for grammar, punctuation, etc…the Formal Writing Style packet will be used as a rubric).