Over the first half of the semester, we’ll read four supplementary critical articles (all on ERes) that deal with our primary texts (see schedule below). For each, you’ll write a short (1-2 pages, double-spaced) response paper. The responses should contain two parts:

1. **summary.** Using 100-200 words (this is a requirement), write a summary of what you take to be the main argument of the article. Attribution is key – it must be clear which words are yours and which belong to the author of the article. Make sure every time you quote more than two or three words in a row you enclose that part in quotations and give a proper citation. For example:

   Zanger goes to great pains to define the characteristics of the “tragic mulatta” (109).

   Nelson concludes, “Thus the right to look is intrinsically connected with the right to purchase, to own, to dominate” (81).

You will want to make frequent use of phrases such as: “As Smith writes,” “Child argues,” “And as Poe implies” etc.

**On the line above your summary, give the word count for your summary.** You need not count the words yourself – in MS Word, highlight only the portion of the text you want to count. Go to “Tools” and choose “word count.”

2. **evaluation.** In one meaty paragraph (there is not minimum or maximum word count for this), evaluate the claims made by the critic you have just read. What about his/her reading of the text do you agree/disagree with and why? Did the article change the way you read the text? Be sure to fully explain your critique of the article, using quotations from the primary text when possible (this will probably not be possible with the first paper, Tompkins, as we won’t have read anything yet. In this case, just use examples from your own experience).

**schedule of responses:**

Thursday, January 19: Tompkins  
Thursday, January 26: Van Leer  
Tuesday, Feb 28: Harding  
Tuesday, March 7: Franchot