LITR 221 Synthesis Essay and Oral Presentation Assignment Guidelines Reader’s Response with primary and secondary sources Directions: For this assignment, students will write a documented essay that answers the question below. To develop the essay, students will identify two primary sources and a contemporary critic (100 points). In addition, students will prepare a short speech to highlight their essay for oral presentation credit (50 points). For quiz credit, each student will also submit an author’s statement (or reflective mini-essay) that relates why the student chose a particular approach to the synthesis assignment and what he or she has learned from that writing/thinking experience. Directed Question for essay: What do you find most interesting or important about the connection between literature and society or culture? As you develop your answer, you must identify at least one literary work from this course (from Moliere’s Tartuffe to Kafka’s Metamorphosis). You must also choose a primary source beyond this class, for example, a textbook chapter or film or article, that will help you illustrate your thesis. Somewhere in your essay, you must also include the opinion of one contemporary critic (secondary source) who has studied and commented on one of the works you have chosen. These sources are to be professional and/or academic. Please do not just Google or troll for internet sources (avoid .com sites, for example, and Wikipedia sources will not be accepted). Students are expected to use LRC books and database articles. Your main goal is to establish your thesis and support your view with specific examples. The secondary source is included to clarify your response. Evaluation Guidelines for Synthesis Paper: To have a successful synthesis paper, students must Devise a thesis that addresses an idea found in literature that resonates beyond course content. Interpret primary sources with attention to critical understanding and awareness of more than one point of view or levels of meaning. Incorporate evidence from contemporary criticism (literary criticism is readily available in the library both in print sources and through the LRC databases) in a way that will strengthen the student’s analysis. Develop the essay that reflects the writer’s awareness of literary forms and/or historical background relevant to the thesis. Avoid logical fallacies so that analysis is coherent and reflects thinking beyond the summary of source material (do not simply provide a plot summary). Meet Minimum Writing Standards, incl. standards for documentation. Correctly prepare the paper using MLA documentation, using formal language and avoiding slang/colloquialisms