**AP Language and Composition**

**Argument Essay**

*Unit: Beauty*

In an essay entitled “The Democratization of Beauty,” Christine Rosen discusses the implications of American’s constant, yet “self-defeating”, pursuit of beauty and how it collides with the ethics of culture.

“Like our new reproductive technologies, cosmetic surgery collides with intimate, personal choices about the kind of lives we want to lead. And it becomes difficult to argue against the exercise of choice either legally or politically … [but] in a free society, why should anyone stand in the way of another person’s transformation from tatterdemalion to goddess? Isn’t this simply the laudable and democratic pursuit of happiness?”

--Rosen

Consider Rosen’s statement and questions about the ethical complexities of dealing with limits of cosmetic procedures. Then, write an essay in which you defend, challenge, or qualify the assertion that limits should be placed on cosmetic procedures in America. Support your argument with relevant evidence from your reading, observation, and/or experience.

**Specifics:**

* MLA format
* Works cited page if you choose to use outside sources or your *AAS* book
* Abide by academic writing standards:
  + Discontinue the use of first and second person pronouns when possible
  + Properly cite all sources – even if the information utilized is a paraphrase!
  + Type all academic writing
  + Use active voice whenever possible
  + Vary sentence structure and use sophisticated language (Note: this does not mean run to a thesaurus for every word – rather, it means to use the language of rhetoric and avoid clichés).
* Be assertive! Believe in the argument that you (as a writer using rhetorical strategies) set forth!

**Draft Due:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Draft is a separate 20 point grade

\*\*\*As with the synthesis essay, please have your thesis and one paragraph for me to look at and discuss with you on this day!

**Due Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Total: 100 points**