

## Personal Enrichment Inquiry Project

The hope is that this project will be truly “personally enriching” for you, that you will be developing an Inquiry which you are truly interested in pursuing. Certainly, the adage, “the more you put into something, the more you will get out of it,” will be true for this Project. The following list should not be considered as a prescriptive one, but as a springboard to help you develop your own ideas.

Depending upon the “Option” you choose to pursue, you could use an Inquiry Project to further your learning in many different ways:

1. **Focused (Literary) Studies:** This area would focus, primarily, on synthesis: comparing and contrasting your text/ Essential Question topic to others. You could complete a Canonical Literature Study (by placing your book in the historical age in which it was written, ex. Renaissance, Romantic, Post-Modern) and assessing how your book both fulfills or breaks with the traditions of its time; Genre-specific study (placing the book alongside others of its genre, ex. Poetry, Drama) and studying how it uses genre-specific techniques to convey its central message; or placing your text and/or Essential Question Topic alongside books or pieces which share a similar theme or focus, (ex. Nature of Truth, Life in the Digital Age, Feminist Literature, Diasporic Literature, Canadian Literature) and considering how your text/topic relates to other thematic texts or pieces.
2. **Composition:** This area of study relates to writing for different audiences, to achieve different purposes. You could choose this option to write an in-depth Research Essay that addresses your Essential Question or you could use your Essential Question as a springboard to write other types of texts: Letters of application or resignation, requests for information, technical reports or manuals, or other applied writing. You are **not** writing a Literary Analysis Essay on your novel; you will be using your novel as a springboard for your Inquiry.
3. **Spoken Communication:** This area provides opportunities for creative and/or professional performance. Using your Essential Question as a springboard, you could prepare a Creative presentation (ex. poetry recitation, dramatization relating to topic, preparing a reader’s theatre experience, story-telling, podcast) or a Professional presentation (ex. delivering a speech or lecture on your book, interviewing a character). You could combine a New Media approach like a Power Point Presentation with a lecture and communicate your ideas in a TED Talk-type of presentation.
4. **New Media:** This area looks at the changing role of technology in today’s society and the increasing importance of digital media in communicating and exchanging ideas. If you choose to pursue this option, you could, for example, conduct a media/film study related to your Essential Question, or use new media to publish your own ideas regarding your topic. You may want to communicate your ideas in a professionally produced Power Point or Prezi, in a video or blog.
5. **Creative Writing:** This option provides you the opportunity to think critically and creatively in relation to your topic. Using your Essential Question as a springboard for your own writing, you could choose to write in a variety of genres: short fiction, poetry, memoir, screenwriting, or creative non-fiction (journalism). You may also want to communicate your ideas about your Essential Question through Fine Arts – using dance or painting or multi-media arts. A Fine Arts presentation should be accompanied by a written commentary explaining the piece and its relation to your Essential Question.