

Student Center for Research, Creativity and Scholarship



The Golden Estate

by

Victor Gaudet

Prospectus Topic: A Modern Retelling of "The Great Gatsby" This project is "The Great Gatsby" retold in a modern setting with important elements updated to the present day. The themes, motifs, and characters of the original novel will be presented in this modern-day setting. Another goal I have in mind for this project is to adapt the sociocultural context of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby" to reflect current issues in society. I hope this project will serve as a demonstration of the enduring relevance of "The Great Gatsby". Updating the novel's themes to reflect present-day sociocultural issues will illustrate how this novel continues to hold its own as a reflection of American Society. This project will be framed as a creative short story that is about ten pages in length. The short story is a retelling of "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald, that will take place in modern-day. Originally published in 1925, the novel has been widely recognized as an excellent work of American literature, and has been adapted into multiple films and plays. The novel follows the unrequited love that Jay Gatsby, a millionaire, has for the narrator's cousin, Daisy Buchanan. The novel also shows the decadent and lavish lives led by the rich in the twenties. This modern adaptation will update the characters and their relationships so that it fits a modern setting and sociocultural context. For example, Jay's lavish parties will have more modern elements that reflect such things as obsession people have with celebrities and social status. The themes of the novel, like pursuing the American Dream, social class, and the corruptive aspects of money and status will be adapted for observation through a more modern lens. I will use a variety of scholarly sources to supplement my project. Literary criticism and analysis of the novel and its themes, symbolism, and imagery will help me to capture the original essence of "The Great Gatsby". I also will do research of the sociocultural context of the novel, and explore the influence it has had on American literature. I hope that the project will serve to demonstrate how "The Great Gatsby" still presents themes that are relevant in the current day and age. I think it will be interesting to re-invent the story and be able to maintain its original significance. My research will include various literary and cultural sources. I will use this research to understand the themes of the American Dream, wealth, power, and corruption so that I can more effectively update them to modern times. I will also be using scholarly sources that examine the cultural and social context of the novel, including the 1920s Jazz Age, the broader context of American modernism. I will also research the impact of "The Great Gatsby" on American literature and culture. Research about the life of F. Scott Fitzgerald will also be conducted to help me better understand the author and, in turn, his work. All of this research will contribute to the adaptation of "The Great Gatsby" into a modern story.

