



Short Story Assignment 8

1. This week we will go over Naturalism, which is a critical term that is applied to a certain approach to writing. Remember that we talked about Emile Zola's influence on Guy de Maupassant's writing. Zola attempted to write as a scientist. He said to himself, "How would this character act and react given this set of circumstances?" We will be going over the biographies of Stephen Crane and Jack London (shown below left) in class, as well as sharpening our understanding of this literary movement.
2. Read Stephen Crane's "Blue Hotel" and Jack London's "To Build a Fire" and complete study guide material below.
3. Choose a story that you would like to write your second critical paper on. We will continue to discuss in class the topics (such as the technique and purpose of irony in Realism) and approach that I would like you to take. The critical paper will be due **the fourth week of November**, a week after our Thanksgiving break.
4. Come up with an idea for your story of realism, which will be due on the second week of December. You can read the fairytales written by your classmates online.

Long-range Assignments:

- Critical paper on one of the topics discussed in class (on story of student's own choice), due **the first week of December**.
- Your story of realism, which will be due on the **third week of December**.
- Prepare for a test on **the second Friday of November**. The test will cover all of the stories of oral history, romance, realism and naturalism. The questions will be based on class lectures and the content of the stories read. Make sure that you are able to talk about the distinguishing characteristics of the genres read.