

***The Stepford Wives* Response Paper**

Analyze the theme of shopping in *The Stepford Wives*. You can consider the theme quite literally, looking at the varied instances of actual shopping in the novel. Or you can consider “shopping” to be shorthand for any number of acts or references to consumerism and advertising.

In your analysis focus on as specific passages as possible in the novel. But don’t depend too heavily on long block quotes. Instead, use shorter quotations as your evidence.

Frame your analysis in terms of an argument. In other words, move beyond observation and obvious generalities toward making some sort of claim about the specific nature or significance of shopping in *The Stepford Wives*.

One way to approach the assignment is to locate places in the text where shopping is opposed to some other act, creating a tension in the novel. Another way is to consider what spaces shopping or references to shopping occur. There are dozens of other approaches you might find just as productive. In the end what matters is that your response is interesting, thoughtful, and analytical.

The response should be 2-3 pages long, well-written, and ready to hand in at the beginning of class on Tuesday, February 15.