GREETINGS FROM ENGLISH 111X

In the book and film adaptation of “Into the Wild”, Chris McCandless/Alexander Supertramp sets out on an identity-finding and -forming adventure. He breaks ties with his past and follows his beliefs and passions into an independent lifestyle. As a college student, you like Chris are responsible for the shape of your life and education in a way that you likely never were before. And in this class, also like Chris, we’ve been exploring identities in an arguably adventurous way. For our final assignment, I’d like you to reflect on the semester and your own learning.

Throughout both the book and film, Chris writes a series of postcards to an unnamed recipient(s). Just as he uses these cards to recount and reflect on his experiences, I’d like you to do the same reflecting on English 111X this year.

You will write three postcards over the next week.

* For each postcard, you’ll be responsible for creating both the image and the text. You’re welcome to cut and paste an image onto the card (with proper citation if you are borrowing from someone else) or create it yourself. The image should relate in some way to the text.
* You will also choose TO WHOM each postcard is written. Consider this carefully. Why would this person be interested in what you have to say? Why would I be interested in telling him/her/them about it.

Postcards are a funny form of communication. They’re assumed to be one-way only – you can’t put a return-address for your recipient to write back to. They are also quite public – once you put your card in the mail, post office employees (and others, perhaps!) can see what you’ve written! Consider these aspects of the genre as you compose your card.

Postcard 1:

Something I have learned

Postcard 2:

Something that has inspired me

(Please quote an author we have read in class)

Postcard 3:

One thing I’d like to continue pursuing – a concept, author, skill, subject, etc.