# Dante Final Project: Due Tuesday November 30, 2015

In the *Divine Comedy*, Dante depicts his vision of the after-world using a Catholic vocabulary interwoven with elements of classical antiquity and medieval politics. His skillful use of figurative language, characterization, and allusion combine to paint a vivid picture of the landscape and moral geography of his *cieco mondo* (“blind world”). Your assignment is to **create your own after-world** – a heaven, hell or other place for the after-life that demonstrates your moral code. There are two components of the project, described below.

**Part 1: Soundtrack Component**

Choose a circle of hell to focus on in your group of 2 - 3. As you read, note themes, mood, characters, and symbolism. As a group, choose a song in existence today that fits your circle of hell or write your own lyrics to fit an existing tune. Design a CD cover that portrays the elements of your circle of hell (note themes, mood, characters, and symbolism) and how the song relates.

**Part 2: Written Component**

Write a description of your journey through your after-world. Like Dante-pilgrim, you are a character in the story, traveling from a state of being “lost” to a state of awareness/clarity with the help of a knowledgeable guide(s). Like the *Comedy*, your narrative should illustrate choice, action, and consequence. It should provide illumination for the reader on your beliefs and your concept of justice and offer guidance about how humans should treat themselves and each other.

Aside from these requirements, you can choose to follow Dante’s formula as closely or loosely as you like. Your after-world need not be religious or political; it can be realistic, fantastical, or satirical. You can write in any form or genre – poem (in *terza rima* if you are brave!), song lyrics, diary, screenplay, twitter posts, etc. Along the way, you may encounter historical figures, fictional characters from literature, or real people living today. If you decide to include family members, peers, or members of the Kenai community in your story, please be considerate of their feelings and privacy…*or risk exile!!*

 **Suggested length: 2 pages double-spaced**

**Part 3: Presentation**

You will present the song your group chose for your circle. Lip syncing is a must, or you can really sing it loud and proud! Be the rock stars you are! Either before or after your song, you will share the insight into this song that your group “wrote”, along with your inspiration. Your group must have a very fitting name!

**Expectations, Process and Deadlines:**

I expect you to be innovative, thoughtful, and meticulous in the creation of both components. You will be graded on the care of your process as well as the quality of your finished product. Plan ahead to allow enough time for revisions. Be prepared to present your project to the class when we return from Thanksgiving Break.