Comparative Analysis of Characters in Macbeth and Othello

**Paper details:**

Issues of class, race, and gender affect characters’ responses to their social and political environment in Macbeth and Othello. For example, Macbeth and Iago respond to real or imagined slights by plotting against those they see as rivals. Othello, holding the rank of general, is at the same time seen by Venetian society as racially inferior. Desdemona’s and Lady Macbeth’s responses to their environment are predicated on their gender and their position within the social hierarchy. Choose one character from Macbeth (either Macbeth or Lady Macbeth) and one character from Othello (Iago, Othello, or Desdemona), and present your own argument about the particular obstacles you see each of your two chosen characters faces, how they confront or surmount those obstacles, and the ultimate effect of class, race, or gender on each. Compare the experiences of the two through an analysis of their motivations and actions as exemplified in Shakespeare’s language. Cite the evidence properly (cite to act, scene, & line(s)) in MLA style and include a Work(s) Cited section at the end of your paper.