



## Week Ten Writing Assignment

We now have three groups.

- Dan B., Drew, Dan K., Derek, and Joyce (D4J) will peer review the papers I circulated by email.
- John, Dan T., Torrey, Megan, and Mara (TTOPS), just turned in their papers. They will do a response to this week's reading, also due Monday evening at 5 p.m.
- Brendon, Robbie, Josh, Chris, Kelly (BRICK), will begin working on their paper on personal identity. (As part of this assignment, you have to make an appointment at the writing center.)

By the way, I hope everyone realizes that you are responsible for doing the reading even if you're not writing a response.

### *Note from the Word Police*

In this week's assignment and henceforth in your writing for this course, you may not use the words 'subjective' and 'objective'. Recall in our discussion of Nagel we described several different contrasts which one might label 'subjective vs. objective': mind dependent vs. mind independent, from the 1<sup>st</sup>-person POV vs. from the 3<sup>rd</sup>-person POV, created by people's practices vs. existing independently of people's practices, etc. If you feel yourself inclined to use 'subjective' and 'objective', you should instead **explain** in your paper the contrast you are trying to convey, and then refer back to your explanation in the rest of your paper.

### **Lem/Williams Response**

Please write a one- to two-page response to the Lem story or the Williams article. As usual, I'd like you to focus on and critically discuss one or two narrow issues raised by the story or article.

Please email me your response in MS Word format **before 5 p.m. on Monday, October 31**.

### **Personal Identity Paper**

Write a roughly four-page paper on the topic of personal identity. Please email me your paper in MS Word format before **12 noon on Monday, November 7**.

An important part of writing a good paper is choosing a provocative thesis worth defending. If your thesis is that the Body Theory is false because clipping our toenails doesn't kill us, then your paper won't be terribly appealing. Who's going to disagree with you?

So you should think carefully about what you want to say and how you want to defend your thesis. You could, for example, try to fix up Locke's view to rescue some of the questions we raised in class. Please see the paper writing guidelines from Week Eight's assignment.

You must make an appointment to work on your paper with someone at the Writing Center, Smith Campus Center 212. (You can make appointments online at [www.writing.pomona.edu/appt](http://www.writing.pomona.edu/appt).) Writing Fellows are available Sunday to Thursday, 2–5 and 7–10. I'll be asking you to write up a brief paragraph on your impression of the Writing Center.

I'd be happy to talk to you about your ideas for your paper or my comments on your previous assignment. You can come by office hours or email me for an appointment.

## **Peer Review**

This coming week we will workshop some of the TTOPS papers in class; in preparation for our workshop, you will peer review **three** of the papers in group 2.

- Two Review Letters are due Monday evening, 10/31, by 5 p.m.
- One Review Letter is due Wednesday, 11/2, by 5 p.m.

I'm leaving it to you all to assign reviewers to papers so that every paper author gets three sets of comments. Will someone please send me an email listing who's reviewing which papers?

For guidelines on writing your Review Letter, please see Week Nine's assignment.

I'd like to emphasize one item from Week Nine's guidelines that occurred to me after reading the letters *your* reviewers wrote to *you* last week. Make sure you summarize in your own words the author's thesis and **a sketch of their main line of argument**. Doing the latter is quite hard, and it's the reason I'm having you write three letters instead of the full five.