

Soc. 107 Principles of Society
Spring 2014

Instructor: M. Harrod, Ph.D.

Reaction Paper #1 Due: Monday, April 28th by 6:00 PM PST

Reaction Paper #2 Due: Tuesday, May 27th by 6:00 PM PST

Reaction Paper Guidelines for Both Papers

First, and foremost, I want you to have fun with this assignment. Ideally, this means that you'll find writing this paper to be painless. In order to make this more likely, I'd recommend that you choose a topic that is of interest to you, however that isn't a requirement.

Paper Requirements:

At the beginning of the paper, you need to provide me with a definition of the concept that serves as the basis of your paper. This should be offset at the beginning of the document. In other words, it should be a separate line or lines on the paper before you start writing the paper. For example, if you want to talk about socialization, provide a definition of socialization before going forward. You can use either the formal definition from the book or you can use your own words; it does not matter to me which route you take as long as the definition is accurate.

After defining the concept of your choice, you are required to then apply this concept to "real life." By this I mean that you should then begin writing your paper as you would any other paper for college. Start with an introductory paragraph, moving to the body of your paper, ending with your conclusion regarding how your concept has been demonstrated in your document using the "real life" example. When I say "real life," I do not necessarily mean that you have to divulge something deeply personal or anything like that. All I mean by saying the application of the concept to "real life" is that in your discussion of the concept your discussion is plausible to have happened or could happen. It can be a description of your life, someone's life that you know or knew, or it can be completely fictional, but it has to be believable. The point here is to illustrate to me that you understand a concept well enough to write about it at some length.

Formatting Guidelines:

Please follow the formatting guidelines listed in the syllabus. Failure to follow those guidelines will lead to your paper beginning at 67/100.

Your paper should follow the following basic structure:

Definition of your concept

Introductory paragraph

Body paragraphs (Talk about 3 points)

Concluding paragraph