

# Philosophy 240

## Identified

Civic Discourse  
Communication  
Digital Literacy

## Assignment (Covers All): Presentation & Write-Up

**Presentation:** In this assignment, the student will select one of the readings from Plato, Aristotle, or the Hellenistic Philosophers and then present it to the class (Note: the Pre-Socratics are not an option). This presentation must include the following elements:

(1) *an accurate summary of the primary ideas and central arguments:*

- a. What is the primary topic or subject?
- b. Does the author have a viewpoint?
- c. How is the viewpoint supported, i.e. what evidence or arguments are provided?

(2) *a short evaluation of the primary ideas and central arguments:*

- a. Do you agree or disagree with any part of the reading?
- b. Can you think of any objections to the reading?
- c. How would this author likely respond to the objections that you raise?
- d. Is this reading consistent or inconsistent with other things we have read?

(3) *original discussion questions designed to get the class talking about the article or the presenter's assessment of it:*

- a. What ideas seem controversial and might generate a disagreement in the class?
- b. Is the class in agreement or disagreement with some aspect of your assessment?
- c. How would other philosophers respond to the contents of your article or your assessment?

All presentations must be a minimum of 5 minutes, but no longer than 10 minutes. Moreover, students must select their article and tell the instructor on or before. Reading assignments will be given on a first come first serve basis. Two students may NOT present the same article. Furthermore, there are no formal requirements for how the student delivers their presentation. However, in the past, the students who had a powerpoint presentation or handout have tended to be more organized and clear. For a full grading rubric, look in Blackboard.

**Presentation Write-Up:** In this paper, the student will provide a written report of the contents in their presentation. Like the presentation itself, this paper must include both a summary and a critical evaluation of the ideas presented in the selected article. It is expected that this paper will be a more thorough and finely tuned version of the student's

presentation which demonstrates careful reflection, original thinking, attention to detail, and application of the reasoning strategies that are discussed in the class.

All papers must be 1500-1600 words in length. They must be typed, double spaced, *stapled*, 1 inch margins, properly formatted to meet MLA standards, and include a Works Cited page. Any paper not stapled at the time of submission will automatically be graded down one letter. Moreover, any paper that does not cite properly is guilty of plagiarism and will receive an automatic 0. Additionally, no paper will be read that suffers from glaring deficiencies in either formatting or grammar. It is thusly recommended that each student proofreads his or her submissions multiple times. It is also highly recommended, though not required, that students bring their papers by the writing center prior to the time of submission. This paper is due at the same time as the presentation. **NO LATE PAPERS** will be accepted. (Note: by late paper, I mean any paper not submitted before you begin your presentation)