

Ethics - Philosophy 20

Term Paper

Roughly 4-6 pages double spaced. Times New Roman. (Remember, length is only important if you need to fit more content into your essay). There are 4 conditions which must be fulfilled. However, you are ultimately responsible for choosing the topic and direction of your essay.

1. You must present an applied topic. The topic could be from lecture or from outside lecture. If you choose to use a topic we did not cover in class you must verify the topic and readings with me before you begin.
 1. Examples: Freedom of speech, terror, euthanasia, etc... In presenting this topic, you should consider the notion of *moral permissibility*
 2. YOU MUST CONSIDER BOTH SIDES OF THE ARGUMENT. One sided papers will be marked as incomplete.
2. You must tie your applied topic into a previously covered theory of ethical evaluation.
 1. Examples: Kant's deontology, Mill's consequentialism, Anderson's theory of rational attitudes, Lugones and world traveling, Rawls and egalitarianism.
3. You must include one secondary source and provide a full MLA works cited page. (This means citing the articles we used IN CLASS)
4. Most Importantly! You SHOULD meet with me to discuss your paper before you start writing it. I want to lead you towards a successful direction. If you cannot meet with me during office hours, I can arrange to meet on Skype. You don't have to, but it is highly recommended.

Note: Part of the difficulty of writing philosophy is organization. If you can organize your paper correctly, then the hard part is over. Check my website for a rough idea on how to write a philosophy paper.

Thesis Example:

According to Mill, it seems as though Euthanasia would be morally permissible only if keeping an individual alive serves to decrease overall utility. In this essay, I will consider arguments against and in favor of Euthanasia. Ultimately, I will deem that Euthanasia is morally permissible.