

Philosophy 1  
Term Paper  
Due Monday December 12th (Day of Final Exam)

Roughly 3-4 pages double spaced. Times New Roman. (Remember, length is only important if you need to fit more content into your essay). You must present a *thesis* (more on that below). You must also present a secondary source from outside of the class readings and lectures. If you plagiarize, copy, or otherwise fail to acknowledge the work of others in your paper, you will automatically fail.

1. Your paper must have a *Thesis*. That is, a statement of intent. Just start your paper off by telling me what you are going to do!
2. You must explain the purpose of Trolley Problems. What are Trolley Problems designed to do?
  - a. Explain the first Trolley Problem.
  - b. Are there any variations of the Trolley Problem (The surgeon, the doctor?) which you feel are important to bring up?
3. You must explain one of the following theories of Ethics and use it to provide an answer for how we should deal with Trolley Problems:
  - a. Mill's Theory of Utility
  - b. Kant's Deontology
  - c. Rawls' Theory of Justice (Egalitarianism)
4. You must include one secondary source and provide a full MLA works cited page. Ideally, your secondary source will include something about Trolley Problems (or other difficult decisions).
5. I highly recommend you meet with me to discuss your paper. I would be willing to look at a draft!

Thesis Example:

**In this essay, I will explain how Kant's theory of Deontology helps us to make a "good" decision when faced with Trolley type problems. To do this, I will first explain what a Trolley Problem is. Next, I will explain Kant's theory of Deontology and provide answers to some counter arguments against his theory. Finally, I will show why Kant's theory is the best way to approach Trolley problems.**