

ETHICAL THEORY

General Technical Requirements for Written Assignments

All written assignments are expected to satisfy the following:

1. Have a cover page consisting of a completed Commitment to Academic Integrity Form (you sign it by typing your name).
2. Be double-spaced.
3. Be written in 12PT, "Cambria" (the default MS Word font), or another similar serif-type font.
4. Have side-margins of 1 inch.
5. Have horizontal alignment that is fully justified.
6. Have no extra space between paragraphs.
7. Have each paragraph begin with a tab indentation.
8. Have the paper's total word count at the top left corner of the title page.
9. Have a descriptive title (see section on title pages below).
10. Have page numbers (see section on page numbering below).
11. Use footnote citations (see section on citing your sources below).

Yes, this is boring, and yes, it is pedantic. The point of these requirements, however, is to allow me to focus more on the *contents* of your paper and not on your skills (or lack thereof) in design. Besides these should also be trivial to follow when using most word processing software. To help, I have included a template satisfying these requirements on the course website.

Title Pages

For the purposes of this course, your title information should occur at the top of the second page of your paper (after your completed copy of the Commitment to Academic Integrity Form) and consist of (1) your paper's word count, (2) the assignment's name, (3) a descriptive and meaningful title, and (4) your name. The word count should be at the top left, while the rest should be centered. Everything should be single-spaced in the same font, size, and style as the rest of your paper. The following is an example:

Word Count: 1,203	Troy McClure – 2
<p style="text-align: center;">Analytic Summary #1 John Stuart Mill's Argument Against Chocolate By Troy McClure</p>	

Since the dawn of time, man has enjoyed chocolate. In the days of the

In order to be descriptive and meaningful, the title should give a good indication as to the contents of the paper—and you will have a better idea of this once you complete the paper. So do it last. Feel free to personalize it but do not go crazy.

While a title like "A Summary of Mill's Test of the Cognoscenti" is not very exciting, it is perfectly adequate for an analytical summary: it tells the reader the principle issue involved, that it is a summary, and what aspect of the text it covers. Similarly for "Happiness is the Foundation of Morality" as a title for a position paper: it specifies the issue, the principal authors involved, and whom you defend on that issue. Keep it simple and direct, being clever and witty takes up time better spent writing the paper itself.

Page Numbers

Page numbers should appear on the top-right of each page, starting on the second page (i.e., there should be *no* page number on the cover page with the Commitment to Academic Integrity Form). Page numbers should otherwise be in the same font, size, and style as the rest of your paper, and have your name followed by a hyphen and the page number. The following is an example:

	Troy McClure – 3
pirates, like we have today, it was mixed with shredded tobacco.	

Citing Your Sources

All citations should be done in footnotes, following the rules below. Footnote text should otherwise be in the same font, size, and style as the rest of your paper. The following is an example:

it is "better to be a human being dissatisfied than a fool satisfied".¹

¹ John Stuart Mill, *Utilitarianism*, p. 188.

You are required to properly cite all your sources (see pages 2 and 15 of the syllabus for the academic integrity policy). Do this whenever you find yourself quoting or otherwise using the ideas of another person. When citing, please follow the rules below, keeping in mind that *you must cite all sources, even if you are only putting their ideas into your own words*.

For any text that was assigned for class, you only need to cite (1) the author, (2) the title, and (3) the page numbers (similar to how they are cited in the course syllabus' schedule), as in:

Shelly Kagan, *Normative Ethics*, pp. 2–3.

For Internet sources that were not assigned for class, you need to cite (as they are available) (1) the author, (2) the page title, (3) the editor, (4) the website name, (5) the publisher's location and name, (6) the date of publication (7) the date you accessed it, and (8) the URL, as in:

T.H. Irwin, "Aristotle" in E. Craig (Editor), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (London: Routledge, 1998), retrieved on January 22, 2014 from <http://www.rep.routledge.com/article/A022>.

Richard Kraut, "Plato", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2004), retrieved on January 22, 2014 from <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato/>.

Thomas Brickhouse and Nicholas D. Smith, "Plato", *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, retrieved on January 22, 2014 from <http://www.iep.utm.edu/p/plato.htm>.

"Aristotle", *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, retrieved on September 15, 2012 from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aristotle>.

For articles that were not assigned for class, you need to cite (1) the author, (2) the article title, (3) the periodical title, (4) the volume, (5) the date of publication, and (6) the page numbers, as in:

John Rawls, "The Domain of the Political and Overlapping Consensus", *New York University Law Review* 64 (1989), p. 235.

For books that were not assigned for class, you need to cite (1) the author, (2) the date, (3) the book title, (4) the publisher's information, and (5) the page numbers, as in:

John Rawls, *Political Liberalism* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1993), pp. 85–106.

In addition, you must also cite any outside sources. For example, if a classmate has something you want to use in your own paper, you must cite it, like this:

From a conversation with X.

From the notes of X.

Similarly, if you seek assistance from the Academic Resource Center (ARC), then you must also cite it in a footnote, for instance, as follows:

X from the ARC helped me improve the grammar and spelling in this paragraph.

If you receive more thorough assistance from the ARC, e.g., spanning most/all of your assignment, then be sure to clearly indicate this in a footnote at the end of the paper.

If you are ever uncertain, please ask; do not assume.