

Second post on Philosophy

PHIL 102, Fall 2013

DUE: Friday, Nov. 29, by midnight

During the first few weeks of class, you wrote a blog post giving your view of what philosophy is and how it might be valuable. Now, at the end of the term, we'll be returning to your views on these issues.

Instructions

Write a post on the blog for the site of your Friday discussion section that addresses the following:

1. What are your views now about what philosophy is, and/or what philosophers do? Look back at your first response to this question and discuss if your views have changed, and if so, how.
2. What do you now think about the value of philosophy and philosophical activities, such as reading and discussing philosophical texts, or of philosophers writing and speaking about particular issues in journals or in public media such as newspapers, magazines, public lectures (e.g., TED talks), etc.? Again, look back at your first blog post on these issues and discuss if your views have changed. (You may not have written about this question at the beginning of the term; this second question was optional then. If not, don't worry about saying anything about whether your views have changed!)
3. Discuss one or more arguments of **at least one philosopher we've studied** in formulating your answers to these questions--you can either use the philosopher's view as an illustration of something you're saying, as someone you agree with, or as someone you disagree with. You don't have to go into great depth on the philosopher's views, but you do need to provide enough to explain how/why you agree or disagree with those views.

The blog post should be at least 500 words, though I expect you'll need more than that to do an adequate job with the two questions and discussing the views of a philosopher. I don't think you should need to go above about 800, though.

How to find your first blog post: Go to the dashboard for your class blog and search on your username (or, if you have done a presentation recently, you can find your post in the list on the first page, then click your name). This will bring up all the posts you've done on the blog, and you can find your first one.

Marking for this assignment

These blog posts will be marked as: (+) adequate, (-) inadequate, (0) not turned in at all. A (+) counts as full marks for each essay; a (-) counts for 50%, and a (0) means zero marks.

The post will be considered adequate if: all three of the above things are included, your answers are mostly clear, and the post is at least 500 words. If your responses are quite superficial and seem to reflect very little effort, or if they are unclear, you may receive an (-) "inadequate" mark.

Avoid plagiarism:

It is the policy of the Instructor to prosecute plagiarism to the fullest extent allowed by UBC. Any use of another's words, including just a sentence or part of a sentence, without citation, constitutes plagiarism. Use of another's ideas without citation does as well. To avoid plagiarism, always give a citation whenever you have taken ideas or direct words from another source. Please ask Christina or your TA if you have any questions about this.

Late penalty

Late responses will automatically be considered (-) “inadequate” unless you have an acceptable excuse for turning in your essay late. You should contact Christina before turning in a late blog post if you want to avoid this penalty, unless this is physically impossible; or at least, as soon as you can after it is late. Monday, Dec. 6 is the last day these responses will be accepted, and you will receive a (0) “not turned in” if you do not turn in your response by this date (unless you have an acceptable excuse discussed with Christina).