Tasks, Grading Rubric, & Late Work Policy

**Tasks (Details)**

**Weekly Reading Assignments**

These are reading comprehension assignments that are based on the textbook and my powerpoint lectures through the modules on that given week.  Carefully read the directions and fully answer the questions in complete sentences. You may cite the powerpoint lectures, textbook, and any external links searched for your weekly assignments. Make sure to include your sources (if applicable) and citations if you quote from the textbook. The purpose of these assignments are for you to fully understand each philosopher's idea so that you can apply them to your paper.

**Weekly Discussions**

These discussions are for your participation since it is an online course and not face-to-face. For discussions, there should be **at least** one post and two replies. All discussions are related to the class textbook, my powerpoint lectures, and any provided videos that illustrate the topics. I want to have successful participation through an online forum in which students are actively engaged by posting their views on the readings, replying to the instructor's and students' posts, and asking questions to specify or clarify the content. This activity is also to engage in philosophic and intellectual conversations.

**Midterm and Final Exam**

You have approximately a week or so to work on your midterm and final exam. The questions are based on your textbook, powerpoint lectures, assignments, and discussions. Please manage your time, you will have multiple attempts in which the exam will take your **highest** grade. Midterm covers half the term (e.g. the first 5 weeks) and the Finals covers all topics the whole term (e.g. cumulative).

**Paper**

There is only 1 paper required in this course. It is not a book report but it is part of the paper. There is a discussion title [Selection of Book](https://online.valenciacollege.edu/courses/126128/discussion_topics/1533425), for students to tell me their book title and author. It can also be used to discuss what you are learning in the course in connection to your book. I can help each individual circulate some ideas on how they can explain, illustrate, and argue for their paper.

In Muriel Spark’s The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie (1961), Ms. Brodie explains that “to me education is a leading out of what is already there in the pupil's soul. To Miss Mackay it is a putting in of something that is not there, and that is not what I call education, I call it intrusion”. By leading, I will provide my example and a past student that can help you write successfully on your paper. You can ask for additional help in turning a rough draft.

Grading Rubric

**Assignments**

Your assignments are 10 points each. I require you to submit your assignments online only once; you may only resubmit until I direct you. You cannot re-submit after I have given you my comments. You can submit your assignments as a text entry or file upload (10-12 font size and Times Roman or Calibri). Assignments are to be fully answered in short answers: 1-3 paragraphs, 3-5 sentences. The minimum word count: 125-175. Here is how I deduct points in your assignments:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Point Deductions | Explanations |
| -10 | Missing Work. |
| -5 | Only one of the questions has been answered. |
| -1, -2, -3 | Turned in as Late after due date.  Did not identify which question was being answered.  Missing a major detail (each assignment varies on each question).  Did not answer question in complete sentences.  Assignment is under minimum word count (125 – 175) |

**Discussions**

Discussion posts are worth 10 points each. You must at least have one post and two replies by two **different** people (not the **same** person). There is **no**word count for discussions. Here is the grading rubric for the online discussions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Well Done | Need Improvement |
| Initial Posting | 7 to 10 points  Completed initial posting by deadline. Posting reflected accurate knowledge of assigned materials and personal opinion/observation. Posting was clearly written to inform the reader and practiced good spelling, grammar and mechanics. Posting adhered to the Core Rules of Netiquette. | 0 to 6 points  Failed to complete initial posting by deadline and/or fell short in one of these ways: did not reflect knowledge of the assigned materials; did not write to inform the reader; did not use built-in spell checker to check work; and/or did not adhere to the Core Rules of Netiquette. |
| Responses | 7 to 10 points  Completed at least two responses by the deadline. Responses added new information, as well as personal opinion, to the thread. Responses were clearly written to inform the reader and practiced good spelling, grammar and mechanics. Posting adhered to the Core Rules of Netiquette. | 0 to 6 points  Failed to complete two postings, completed postings after the deadline, and/or fell short in one of these ways: did not reflect knowledge of the assigned materials; did not write to inform the reader; did not use built-in spell checker to check work; and/or did not adhere to the Core Rules of Netiquette. |

**Midterm and Final Exam**

Both exams are each 100 points. For the Midterm, there are 20 questions with 5 points per question. For the Final, there are 25 questions with 4 points per question.

**Paper**

The paper is worth a 100 points total consisting in two parts: a book review and philosophic evaluation. Here is how I deduct points:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Point Deductions | Explanations |
| -100 | Missing Work or Not Turned. |
| -50 | No Book report (Part I)  No Philosophic Evaluations (Part II) |
| -5, -10, -15 | Turned in Late after due date.  Inconsistent grammar and spelling.  Missing sources and citations.  Incorrect use of the philosopher's idea.  When connecting philosophic ideas to the book, saying it is "ethical, political, metaphysical, or religious" does **not** argue, illustrate, or explain what you learned. You must be **specific** by identifying which philosopher's theory you are using. |

Late Work Policy

**IMPORTANT**

For any work (answering questions, posting discussions, uploading papers, and taking exams), pay attention to these three words:

* Open -- when work opens.
* Due  -- when work is Due, without Late points.
* Until -- Deadline, when work closes, and you cannot get to it any more.

\*Use your Canvas Calendar tool when you turn in any work. Think of it as your agenda or planner.

It is important for you to turn in your work on time. That means turning it in **BEFORE** the **DUE** date. Here is how I deduct late points:

Reading Assignments & Weekly Discussions: If you are late in posting after the due date, you will lose 2 points per day. You have until Thursday night to turn your assignments for some points before the assignment closes.

Midterm & Final Exam: there are **no make ups** if you miss your exams. It is highly important to turn them in before the due date.

Final Paper: final papers are due during Finals week. You will lose 5 points per day after the due date.

You may also request that I look at individual issues if you cannot turn assignments like illness, accidents, home care, hospitalizations, etc., **with some type of documentation** for my explicit consent.  This is due to the difficulty of changing within Canvas, keeping track, and to the unfairness to those who do work on time.

**DISCLAIMER**: If you known - all semester - decided to plan on what assignments to do and not do or not to do your papers, then you will not get the grade you deserve. Be it an A, B, or C. Remember: my grades are not weighted, every assignment **counts**. It is not my responsibility if you **chose** not to do the work.