

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FINAL PROJECT: BIOETHICS & ANIMALS (SPRING 2013)

**\*\*New deadline: Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, at 11:59 PM**

You should find a topic relevant to the course that excites you. The topic should be manageable; in other words, “research on chimpanzees” is not a manageable topic because it is too vast. Narrow in on a smaller topic that you can lay out and discuss critically. Once you find an alluring bioethical problem, you will need to research some of the necessary facts related to the topic, and you will also need to reflect on the relevant arguments that scholars have published. Then you need to make your own contribution to the debate. This project is meant to serve as a launching pad in case you wish to pursue it in the future for advocacy or scholarship purposes. You are free to take up any well-argued and well-researched position you find compelling. You are allowed to change your topic from what we discussed in March, but make sure you contact me beforehand.

You need to a) lay out the ethical issue, b) explain and analyze some published philosophical viewpoints on the topic, c) carefully and precisely argue how you believe the problem should be understood or resolved, and c) provide a compelling objection to YOUR position. If you have the space, I will give extra points for including a nicely reasoned response to the objection. Consult the grading rubric for detailed information on what I look for in philosophical papers. Keep in mind that your argument should be internally consistent (i.e., don’t contradict yourself) and nuanced (i.e., an overly simplistic position that overlooks ethical complexities will not go over well).

Your project can be in one of three formats: 1) a traditional term paper, 2) a website, or 3) an extended Power Point or Prezi (which you would not present). If you have another idea for how to present your project, you need to have it approved by me. **Regardless of which format you choose, your project should have the equivalent of 5-7 pages of text.** You **MUST** include acceptable (e.g., MLA, Chicago, APA) citations. For class materials, in-text parentheticals, endnotes, or footnotes are fine. For outside sources, you must include a formal bibliography. This applies regardless of which format you choose.

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FOR A TRADITIONAL TERM PAPER:

- Submit to Blackboard SafeAssign as .pdf or .doc(x) file.

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FOR A WEBSITE:

- Copy and paste the substantive content (you can omit navigation bar, interactive elements) into a word document (.pdf or .doc(x)), and include the URL to your website at the top of the first page. Submit this file to Blackboard SafeAssign.
- It makes the most sense to organize the parts of your argument into tabs, pages, and subpages. There are many free website options out there—Blogger, Weebly, Wordpress, etc.
- You can include bulleted lists as well as full paragraphs.
- Your website can include pictures, videos, and interactive elements. If you borrow media or material from elsewhere, make sure you cite it (a link will suffice for pictures).

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FOR A POWER POINT OR PREZI:

- Save as a .pdf document (yes, both PPT and Prezi let you do this), and submit to Blackboard SafeAssign.
- You can include bulleted lists as well as full paragraphs.
- Your presentation can include pictures and links. If you borrow media or material from elsewhere, make sure you cite it (a link will suffice for pictures).