

AP/SOSC 3116 6.0 The Patient

COURSE THINK PIECES:

What is a course “think piece”?

There are two sets of course think pieces that need to be submitted to the course director in two instalments - the first due on November 18th and the second on February 10th. The first set of think pieces are worth 10% of your final grade and the second set of think pieces is worth 20% of your final grade. Each set of think pieces should contain entries for 5 weeks of the course, so Submission #1 will contain 5 think pieces and Submission #2 will contain 5 think pieces. Each think piece should be typed and be 500 words in length. Students who write shorter pieces, or much longer pieces, will be penalized. Your think pieces should be a critical discussion of the week’s readings, lecture and discussion material. This is a challenging exercise, but provides student with an opportunity to engage with course material in a creative and intellectual fashion.

Please note that I do not want you to simply summarize the readings and class material, creating a weekly ‘report.’ Rather, **I expect think pieces to be scholarly, thoughtful, and intelligent, pulling together the readings, class discussion, class activities, films and lectures to create a “thought piece” about all elements of one week of the course.** Feel free to be creative here – find bridges between material covered in different weeks of the course and different topics which are considered – craft “big picture” ideas that take the week’s topic beyond the confines of the classroom. But keep in mind that the focus in your writing should be course material, course topics and course analysis. Remember this is not meant to be a set of opinion pieces and you cannot write a fully competent think piece if you are not in class to participate in the week’s activities.

So – when you have finished a think piece ask yourself the following questions:

- Do I focus on course material, topics and analysis?
- Is this piece scholarly, thoughtful and intelligent, or am I simply summarizing course readings, being opinionated, or writing about my personal life?