

**Philosophy 2330: Science and Society**  
**Fall 2022, Second Long Paper Assignment**

**Purpose:**

The standard unit of philosophical analysis is the argumentative essay. Writing is an extension of thinking. It allows you (and forces you!) to think more deeply about a topic than you are able to do by keeping things 'in your head.' Exposition of someone else's views (including careful description of those ideas, issues, terms and scope) allows you to understand them better, and it is then much easier to critically evaluate these views. Laying out your own argument or that of someone else often forces you to be explicit about connections which can reveal weaknesses in your own thinking which must be acknowledged so they can then either be fixed or can lead to better views overall. Thus the purpose of assigning an essay is both as an effective way to evaluate your learning and progress in the class and to help improve your philosophical skills.

**Instructions:**

You are to write an argumentative paper on some topic relevant to ethics and medicine. Your paper should engage with at least one topic discussed the last third of the class (chapters 12-14 in Jacob Stegenga's book *Care and Cure*, on genetic engineering, or on race and medicine). You should also bring in and cite at least one source other than Stegenga. You are strongly encouraged to expand the outline that you used for your tutorial session though this is not a requirement. The paper should be between roughly 1300 and 1800 words. If you double space and have natural fonts and margins, your essay would be about 4-6 pages.

**Due Date:** Your essay should be uploaded into Blackboard before 11:59pm on Monday, December 12th.

**Grading:** This paper will be worth 20 points (20% of your final grade).

**Guidelines:** An argumentative essay is a reasoned defense of some particular claim. A general guideline for a paper like this is that you should spend about half of your time in exposition and half your time in evaluation.

**References:** You should cite any references that you use. If you quote or paraphrase something, you should be citing the work and page number. You should also make sure that the full reference is included somewhere (for example, in a references section at the end). I do not care what format you use for citations. The general rule I that I should be able to easily find what you are looking at and using. If you want specific rules to follow, I think that the APA style is pretty common and works fine:

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/citations/basic-principles>