**Essay 2 Instructions**

**PHIL 240: Ethics, S2019**

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**Office Hours: MWF, 12:15-1:00 and by appointment; Gleeson Library 4th Floor**

**More info/sign up at laurels-office-hours.wikia.com**

**Due date(s):**

(a) If you want the option to do a rewrite: 4/30, 11:59pm (i.e., you will receive comments in time to do a rewrite if you turn your paper in by this date). Please note that if you choose this option your draft needs to be finished and represent your best effort. If your paper is not in this condition on 4/30, just come in to see me office hours, I can offer you better help there.

(b) Otherwise: 5/15, 11:59pm (no rewrite will be possible)

All assignments must be on Canvas, no emailed copies or hard copies accepted. Assignments in Pages format won’t be accepted, please convert to .docx, .doc, .pdf, .rtf, or .txt. Please include full bibliographical information for all sources used, even if you are only using the class materials. **Assignments without bibliographical information will receive a 1-point deduction.** You may use outside sources for this paper, but please limit yourself to scholarly ones.

**Late Papers and Extensions:** No extensions will be given for this assignment. If you don’t turn it in by 4/30, you will have to come to office hours with a draft in order to get feedback. 5/15 is a hard deadline—absolutely no work will be accepted after 11:59pm on that day.

Length: 1000-1250 words

Worth: 25% of final grade

**Instructions:**

Choose one of the following questions:

1. Should some people give up altruistic morality in favor of creating their own values? (Nietzsche) Note: Do not use *On the Genealogy of Morals* to answer this question. Stick with the assigned primary text.

2. Can living your life pretending that your values are true fulfill the human need for values? (Nietzsche)

3. Is the best life one lived in good faith, regardless of the specific values chosen? (Sartre)

Write a paper with the following structure:

1. Introduction
2. Explanation of relevant background, with quotations
3. Setting up of the philosophical question
4. Answer to the question
5. Counterargument
6. Rebuttal
7. Conclusion

You have practiced all of these sections in skills papers and in Essay 1, so creating the detailed instructions for Essay 2 means collecting and merging the instructions from the Skills Papers and Essay 1. I recommend going back over the feedback for all your previous writing in the class so you know what you need to work on for Essay 2. You should also take a look at the sample of Essay 2. Here is how the sections of Essay 2 correspond to the instructions for the Skills Papers and Essay 1:

1. Introduction: Essay 1
2. Explanation of relevant background, with quotations: Skills Paper 3
3. Setting up of the philosophical question: Skills Paper 3
4. Answer to the question: Skills Paper 4
5. Counterargument: Skills Paper 2
6. Rebuttal: Skills Paper 2
7. Conclusion: Essay 1

Some notable differences from past assignments:

* the counterargument will be against your own view, and the rebuttal will be defending your own view
* in the rebuttal, you need to avoid repeating the arguments that you made in your original answer
* the introduction and conclusion may be condensed (i.e., you don’t need to summarize every single section), but they must, at a minimum, give the reader an understanding of the question, your answer (i.e. your thesis), and your reasoning in favor of your answer

**Bibliographic information:**

Questions 1 & 2:

Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Beyond Good and Evil*. Trans. Walter Kaufmann. New York: Vintage, 1989.

Question 3:

for the file titled “Sartre the Humanism of Existentialism” (reading for 4/24)

Sartre, Jean-Paul. *The Humanism of Existentialism.* In *Existentialism: Basic Writings.* Ed. Charles Guignon and Derk Pereboom. Indianapolis: Hackett, 2001.

for the file titled “Sartre Being and Nothingness Bad Faith” (reading for 4/26 & 4/29)

Sartre, Jean-Paul. *Being and Nothingness.* Trans. Hazel E. Barnes. New York: Washington Square Press, 1956.