

READING REFLECTION JOURNALING ASSIGNMENT

Due: BEFORE each class on readings due for that class (Starting in Week 2)

Where: BlackBoard

Points: Total of 20 (1 point each)

Can miss 2 without affecting grade

Grading will be as follows:

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| 1 point | Completed assignment according to directions and submitted on time. |
| .5-.9 points | Completed assignment, but left components out from above directions, and/or did not submit on time. |
| 0 points | Did not complete/did not turn in before grades submitted. |

Instructions:

- Read the required readings for each class
- Write no more than a one-page reflection on your reading.
- If there is more than one reading assigned for the class, pick one
- Submit these in a one-page document, 8.5 x 11, 1-inch margins, 12-point font, Ariel or Times New Roman, double-spaced on BlackBoard, using Turn-it in Software BEFORE class. A deduction of .1 point will be taken if submitted AFTER class (i.e. most points for that assignment will be .9).
- If there are issues with BB, you can submit a paper version in class for the class the readings were assigned.
- You can use these notes in class for discussion on the topic.

Writing a Reading Reflection

Critical reflection requires thoughtful and persistent inquiry. Although basic questions like “what is the thesis?” and “what is the evidence?” are important to demonstrate your understanding, you need to interrogate your own assumptions and knowledge to deepen your analysis and focus your assessment of the text.

Assess the text(s):

1. What is the main point? How is it developed? Identify the purpose, impact and/or theoretical framework of the text.
2. What ideas stood out to me? Why? Were they new or in opposition to existing scholarship?

Develop your ideas:

1. What do I know about this topic? Where does my existing knowledge come from? What are the observations or experiences that shape my understanding?
2. Do I agree or disagree with this argument? Why?

Make connections:

1. How does this text reinforce my existing ideas or assumptions? How does this text challenge my existing ideas or assumptions?
2. How does this text help me to better understand this topic or explore this field of study/discipline?

A Note on Mechanics

As with all written assignments or reports, it is important to have a clear focus for your writing. You do not need to discuss every point in the reading. Pick a few that you can explore within the context of your learning. For reflective responses, identify the main arguments or important elements of the text to develop a stronger analysis that integrates relevant ideas from course materials.

Be organized. Introduce your topic and the point you plan to make about your experience and learning. Develop your point through body paragraph(s), and conclude your reflection by exploring the meaning you derive from your reflection. You may find the questions listed above can help you to develop an outline before you write. You should maintain a formal tone, but it is acceptable to write in the first person and to use personal pronouns.

Derived from:

<https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-write-university/how-approach-any-assignment/how-write-reflection-paper>