

REACTION PAPER RHUBRIC

Three Reaction Papers are assigned for this class. They are due one week after each of the first three tests as listed on the tentative class schedule. The first shall be worth 3% of your final grade, the second and third 6% each. They are to be based upon the articles found my webpage.

Each paper should contain three elements. First, you should describe the chosen article. Summarize its main points, convince me that you have not only read it, but also that you understand it. This portion of the assignment is worth 40% of your grade for the essay.

Next compare what the article says with what we encountered in our text, lecture and, if applicable, class discussions. Does the article add anything new? Does it offer a different or alternate viewpoint? Is its perspective convincing? Does it cite authoritative research, well-reasoned arguments? Does it contradict what we discussed in class?

If you can't see any parallels between the article and our text and lectures/discussions, pick another article. This portion of the assignment, as well as your personal reaction to follow, is worth 20% of your grade.

Finally, provide your personal reaction to the article. Feel free to use personal experiences, Illinois Valley values and common sense, what your ethnic background, family and friends would say about the topic in general and the article in particular.

The remaining 20% of your grade shall come from how well, or poorly, you write the paper. Make sure to use complete, well-structured sentences. Break the paper up into an appropriate number of paragraphs. Make sure that you proofread for spelling and grammatical errors.