## Weekly Journals

## What

Each journal entry will be a short reflection on something class-related, approximately 150-300 words (a long paragraph; definitely no more than a page long).

That’s the only requirement; I want you to use the journals in a way that you find useful. For example, an entry might contain reflections on readings, reflections on class discussions, things which do/don’t resonate with your experience, thoughts about the course, complaints, et cetera.

The 2 most common approaches I see are: (1) Briefly summarizing what’s been going on in the class in your own words; and (2) Drawing connections between class discussions and personal experiences / conversations. But I’ve seen lots of other interesting and creative uses of the assignment.

## Why

To keep you engaged with the class and to help me get to know you a bit better.

## Due

Every week, by 11.59 PM Sunday night.

## Submission

Journals will be submitted via a text box on Canvas.

Canvas can be squirrelly. You may want to keep your journals in a file on your computer and then copy-paste the text into the submission box on Canvas. That way you won’t have to rewrite it if your connection times out or Canvas otherwise fails to save your submission.

## Number / frequency

One journal per week, every week of the semester (except for spring break in the spring semester).

## Grading

Each journal entry will be graded credit/no credit. You will get credit just so long as I believe you have made a conscientious effort to fulfill the assignment.

## Late journals

The point of these assignments is to help you stay engaged with the course throughout the semester. Therefore, there will be a very limited window for turning them in late.

I will accept a late journal for half credit up until the next journal is due (i.e., the following Sunday at 11.59pm). After that, no late journals will be accepted.

## Other notes

When time permits, I will try to answer questions raised in journals. However, I often get behind in grading journals. Thus any question which you really want answered should be asked via email or Canvas.

If you want to submit a drawing or other non-text journal, that’s fine too. I’ve seen some amazing drawings, collages, comic strips, mixtapes, and other media over the years. It will count if it is class-related and seems to have required at least as much effort as writing a long paragraph. I have Canvas configured to only accept submissions via the text box, so if you want to submit an image or other file, email it to me before the deadline.