

# **Critical Thinking and Readings in Social Sciences**

**Winter Semester, 2022**

## **Assignment 1**

**Deadline: Tuesday, 24th May**

**Maximum Marks- 10**

### **Instructions:**

1. Submit your assignment in Word format (in font Times New Roman, size 12 with line spacing 1.5) on Google Classroom.
2. Note that this is a graded assignment and carries a maximum of 10 marks.
3. The grades will be part of your wider class participation component of the grading scheme for the course.
4. Upload the Word file as your submission and no extra files/zipped folder.
5. Write your own responses and do not copy from any source. **There is zero tolerance for plagiarism.**
6. Please keep to the deadline.

In this assignment, you need to apply your learnings so far to the article “Why the COVID-19 numbers matter.” The article has been discussed in the last two tutorials.

**Refer to the steps mentioned below and work out the following in the text -**

1. Read the article from paragraph one that begins - “The World Health Organisation (WHO) has estimated...” to paragraph ten that begins- “We, must, therefore, hold the government accountable....infrastructure that will have to be built from the ground up.”
2. The goal is to break key arguments in each paragraph into the standard form and identify as many markers as you can spot as per the Close Analysis metric.
3. Then using the conclusion from each of these arguments develop the premises for what you think is the main argument of the article, showing how they lead us towards the conclusion that the article is building towards.
4. While doing so, develop an ‘argument tree’ as discussed in the class and tutorials and show the purpose of the TB argument. How does it help improve the overall argument, whether by discounting the premise of the main argument?
5. Also while doing this, continue to spot the main argument markers and words that help stop the arguments marking them out as the guarding, assuring, evaluating, and discounting terms. Highlight them according to the following colour code scheme.

Guarding Marker- Blue

Assuring Marker- Purple

Discounting Marker- Green

Evaluating Marker- Brown; mention whether it is a **positive evaluating marker** or **negative evaluating marker** by highlighting them in yellow and red.