**Guidelines for Reading Responses**

Reading responses should be 4-5 pages (12-point font, double spaced, Times New Roman, APA citation format). Reading responses should be structured to include an effective summary of the material; a well-articulated and substantiated analysis of the author’s argument(s); quotes from within the reading; connections to your own experience; and an appropriate conclusion (summarizing your thoughts and questions about the material).

~Explore enough content from the reading that I can be sure you read it in its entirety.

~Thoroughly articulate theories presented by the author(s).

~Challenge the reading or explain which arguments caused you to agree with author (include evidence for both)

~Directly reference the reading using quotes to support claims.

~Where appropriate, make connections between the readings and your lived experience.

**How to Structure a response:**

In the past, I have read papers in which there is heavy emphasis on certain *portions* of the reading at the expense of adequate coverage of the *entire* reading. This leaves me wondering if students chose to focus on areas of personal interest, or if the reading wasn’t completed. To ensure *full credit* for the assignment, succinctly touch about all portions of the (document the author’s claims) while formulating your own perspective on the material. For example, your first paper might look like the following (this is a suggestion, not a requirement):

All academic papers start with a brief **introductory paragraph** (including a clear thesis statement). You might then progress in the following way:

**Section 1**: Present a thorough summary of *Sugar-Coating* reading (see the outline below for an example of how to identify important topics found within the reading (This outline can serve as an example of what to include in your paper. I will not offer outlines going forward—this is to help those of you who struggle regarding how to organize a paper). Be sure to weave quotes, personal reflections, challenges where appropriate, connections to earlier course content, and your own lived experience into the paper.

I. **Companies that control processed food industry** A. Megabrands B. Money spent

II. **Deceptive tactics employed** A. false claims on packaging B. appeals to cultural values (celebs and patriotism)

C. Front groups (Corn Refiners Association >Berman PR >Center for Consumer Freedom)

III. **Consequences for consumers (health)**

IV. **Target vulnerable consumers** A. children (biological vulnerabilities & psychological vulnerabilities)

B. women (gender inequities & exploit body image insecurities) C. minorities D. low income

**Section 2** Then transition to the next reading, *Nutrition Scientists* *on the take…* (summarize, include quotes, personal reflections, challenges where appropriate, link material to earlier course content and your own lived experience)

Offer a **closing paragraph** to your paper.

Finally **pose 2 questions** at the end of your paper: Think of 2 questions you would ask the author of either reading.

**Paper Rubric**

**Name**

**Assessment scale 1-4**

4 = Sophisticated and Exemplary

3 = Competent

2 = Fairly Competent

1 = Not Yet Competent

**Thoroughness:** response sufficiently summarizes each of the readings 1 2 3 4

**Comprehension:** response reveals an understanding of the authors’ positions 1 2 3 4

**Organization and clarity:** sequence of ideas is logical and cohesive 1 2 3 4

**Evidence**: response incorporates authors’ quotes to support or reject claims 1 2 3 4

**Critical analysis:** response includes insightful personal and critical reflections 1 2 3 4

**Grammar and Mechanics**: response reveals an academic writing style 1 2 3 4

**2 Questions at the end** Yes No

**Grade:**