

Assignment Proposal for ITSI 15

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ASSIGNMENT

- In groups of 3 - 4 students, select two papers or book chapters of secondary literature related to the topic.
- By using collaborative writing tools (at the moment, Git + Markdown), compose an entry for an annotated bibliography
 - Create a summary of the argument of the reading. It should include:
 - * Information about the author, the philosophical tradition she or he belongs to, any methodological commitments that are relevant to the text
 - * Information about the publication / publisher
 - * A step for step summary of the argument being made
 - Explain how the reading relates to the primary text discussed in class
 - Critically assess the argument proposed in the secondary literature
- Engage critically with the summaries provided by others:
 - Propose changes of
 - * Definitions and explanations of concepts
 - * Examples and thought experiments
 - * Argument and paper structure
 - Comment on
 - * Matters of substantial disagreement (different interpretations of the argument, different takes on the merits of the argument)

- Reconcile
 - * Propose solutions to any conflicts between two group members:
 - * Disambiguating, clarifying concepts and ensuring that the conversation takes place in a clearly delimited field
- Agree upon a final product that incorporates all relevant attitudes towards the reading the group had.

LEARNING GOALS

- Students understand the importance of collaboration for the development of philosophical arguments.
- Students become attuned to the subtleties of philosophical argument by engaging with the written output of their peers and reconciling it with their own.
- Students become efficient mediators in philosophical disputes by considering all sides of the argument and incorporating the most important aspects of each position into a final product.
- Students understand how to gainfully employ technological means to manage collaborative efforts in paper writing.

ASSESSMENT

- This assignment is mostly assessed according to the collaborative process. The end result is only of minor importance. (Graded Pass / Fail, perhaps)
- The collaborative process is graded along five dimensions
 - Organization and division of labor by developing a work plan and assigning tasks to group members
 - Speedy and dutiful execution of individual tasks in accordance with the work plan developed early on
 - Quality of change / merge requests on others' contributions.