TOTAL CTE Word Count for inclusive of quotations and citations (350 STRICT word limit): 350 words

(NOTE: Include the prompts. Do not exceed one page or the word limit. Upload as a 1-page PDF to Gradescope by deadline.)

1. Identify and articulate ONE cross-cutting theme (or debate) from this week’s materials. Remember that a theme is not a topic. “This week’s theme is competition” is insufficient. What do this week’s materials together say *about* competition? A better theme would be “this week’s readings discuss the complex and controversial role of the state in the creation and management of markets.” Reference and cite at least THREE readings. Use this citation format: (Smith 2019, 4). (~ 225 words)

This week, we continued discussing Friedman’s neoliberalist ideology, specifically how his economic policy influenced the last half century. Klein argues that Friedman’s “Shock Doctrine”, summarized best by the statement, “fear and disorder are the catalysts for each new leap forward”, paint the course of the past century as littered with the “deliberate terrorizing [of] the public to prepare for…radical free-market reforms” (Klein 2007, 10). She supports this by discussing how Friedman was an advisor for Pinochet during his dictatorship, eventually causing Chile into a “deep recession” (Klein 2007, 100). This is also corroborated by Rodgers, who describes Pinochet’s coup as the “dismantling of Allende’s government”, as his policies were being replaced by the “abolition of price controls, abandonment of…foreign trade” and the “demobilization of labor unions” (Rodgers 2018, 3). Brown then argues that these neoliberalist ideologies have led to the “economization of…noneconomic domains” (Brown 2015, 31), as our daily lives are “increasingly [being] configured as strategic decisions…related to enhancing [our] future value” (Brown 2015, 34). As a result, it has “remade human being[s] as human capital”, and is increasingly becoming “both our ‘is’ and our ‘ought’”. In other words, the economization of our decisions have gradually transformed us into evaluating everything on an economic basis, forgetting that it is not the only metric available.

1. Pick ONE reading and carefully critique the author’s methodology, evidence, tone, underlying assumptions, and/or biases. Do not praise the author or work. Rather, be critical and be specific. Include ONE citation. (~75 words)

Brown’s critique of how neoliberalism “configured human beings [to act] exhaustively as market actors” (Brown 2015, 31) and caused us to think exclusively in terms of “enhancing [one]’s future value” (Brown 2015, 34) seems to be incomplete. Although these goals appear to be very selfish on the surface, climbing the economic ladder can also be well-intentioned, as one wants to make more money so they can provide for their family.

1. Offer ONE clarifying question about one of the readings (e.g., something you didn’t understand) OR a thoughtful question for discussion section (e.g., “can market competition be regulated in states?”). Your question could link to ideas from another week or to current affairs. Avoid questions that are too general or rhetorical. Be specific. (~25 words)

Friedman argued earlier that the government’s role in the economy was solely to make sure that the market remained fair for all parties. To what extent does “shock therapy” violate these principles, if at all?

1. What reactions – or connections - do you have to this week’s materials? Consider: What were you surprised to learn? To what extent are these materials relevant to today? We are looking for thoughtful reflections. (~25 words)

It’s interesting to see the similarities between Brown’s argument about only valuing capital gain and our discussion a while back about preferring to live where we work rather than vice versa.

Do not exceed one page.