Second Semester Paper
CMSC/MATH 350
Outline Due: Oct. 30, 2015 (by 11:59:59pm)
Rough Draft Due: Nov. 13 (by 11:59:59pm)
Final Draft Due: Nov. 23 (by 11:59:59pm)

In your first paper, you analyzed a contemporary ethical problem in the context of various ethical theories and I required you to either defend or attack a proposal using ethical and real world analysis. In this paper, I want you to take the same topic, but now defend the opposition position. If you were "Against" the proposal, you must now present a case "For" the proposal. If you were "For" the proposal, you must now make a case "Against" the proposal. While you can use some of the same sources from both papers, you should do additional research to support your new case. You can view the list of topics at:

http://topics.marmorstein.org

if you have forgotten which position you adopted in the first paper. You do not need to sign up again.

Submission

As with the first paper, you will turn in your paper in three stages. First, you will submit an outline. The outline will give both the structure of the document and the results of your initial research. Second, you will submit a rough draft of the paper in which the outline structure has been replaced by grammatically correct and proper English prose. Last, you will submit a final copy of the paper in which any errors in content, structure, or grammar have been corrected.

All submissions must be in OpenDocument text format (.odt format). I will not accept papers in Microsoft Word format, PDF, or any other file format. If you do not have a word processor on your computer that supports .odt, you can download the free "Libreoffice" suite from

https://www.libreoffice.org/download/libreoffice-fresh/

which will allow you to easily create documents in .odt format.

To turn in your paper, go to http://marmorstein.org/~robert/submit and log in with the username and password I will be handing out in class. Click "Submit" next to the proper assignment and use the "Browse" button to select your document. You may submit as many copies of the assignment as you like. I will only grade the last copy you turn in.

Writing an Outline

You should use the following structure for your outline:

     I. Introduction
          – Hook

    II. Background
          – History of the issue

III. Policy Reasons for supporting (or not supporting) the proposal
   – Effectiveness of the proposal
   – Social impacts/consequences of the proposal
   – Political impacts/consequences of the proposal
   – Technological impacts/consequences of the proposal
   – Financial/Economic impacts/consequences of the proposal

IV. Ethical Reasons for supporting (or for not supporting) the proposal
   – Positive or Negative Effects of the Proposal
   – Analysis of those effects using one or more different ethical theories
      – Utilitarianism
      – Deontology
      – Kantianism
      – Social Contract Theory

V. Conclusion
   – Mandate

In addition, you should place the following at the top of the outline:

Title
Author's Name
CMSC/MATH 350
Fall 2015

3. Supporting your argument

Each point of your outline should be numbered (or lettered) and should be justified using either:
1. Source Evidence with proper citation
2. Logical argument from sources already cited
3. Examples (hypothetical or empirical)
4. Analysis of patterns
5. Reasoning backwards from consequences to action

I would like to see at least two or three points for each major division of your outline. Of these, the vast majority should be citations from credible sources. The rest should (for the outline) be one-line summaries of the argument you intend to make in the paper.

All quotes should be tagged with a one-line summary and be cited properly. For example,

A. Multiple vaccinations provide little benefit

[1] Dana Scott, "Taking the Risk out of Puppy Shots", Dogs Naturally Magazine, 2014, http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/taking-the-risk-out-of-puppy-shots/

"When titers were measured(titers are a way to measure a dog's level of immunity), 100% of the puppies vaccinated once at 12 weeks were protected. But only 94% of the puppies in Group B were protected…...despite receiving two vaccines as opposed to one. It would appear that the first vaccine reduced the effectiveness of[sic] the second vaccine."

Notice that the tag is in bold and the rest of the text (including the citation) is not. This makes it much easier to read the outline. You should also bold the structural elements of the outline. For instance:

I. Introduction
    A. Hook
        – Story about dog who died from allergic reaction to rabies shot
II.   Background
        – Louis Pasteur
        – Salk Vaccine
        – Ethics of vaccination
        – Vaccination of animals

Since the letter I is a Roman numeral, we skip from H to J when "numbering" subpoints (though hopefully you won't have that many!)

Rough Draft

For the rough draft, I would like you to turn your outline into a full-fledged paper of at least 1500 words and no more than 3000 words (roughly 3-5 pages) not counting bibliography and title. Your paper must use proper English grammar, spelling, and syntax. You should use ½ inch margins on all four sides and a 12-point serif font.

You should remove the outline structure, but feel free to keep "section headings". For example, it might be a good idea to divide the Ethical Reasoning section of your paper up into different sections for each ethical theory you will consider.

Final Draft

For the final draft, you should fix any mistakes from your rough draft. Be thorough. If you have made the same grammar or structural mistake in many places, I may have commented on it only the first or second time. You should go through your paper carefully and make sure that you have checked the entire paper for places that may be affected.

Plagiarism

Please be very, very careful to properly cite your sources. Make sure that:
    A. You have given me enough information to find the source for myself
    B. You have clearly indicated which sentences/thoughts are from the source

I am not particularly concerned about your choice of bibliography style as long as it is clear and easy to follow. **I much prefer parenthetical citations to footnotes**. Use of in-text citations is also a good idea.

If you have questions about plagiarism or the honor code, PLEASE ask me! I am available by e-mail or Facebook almost all the time (even late at night) if you can't talk to me in person. It is much better to get a poor grade on the assignment than to get an F in the class following an honor trial.

Writing Rubric for CMSC/MATH 350

Your papers will be evaluated using the rubric below which is largely derived from the department's writing intensive rubric:

Content Mastery (12 pts)
– Support: Support is developed fully, from multiple angles
– Analysis: Analysis is insightful
– Synthesis: Student demonstrates synthesis of ideas with clear and complete explanations
– Originality: Writing is an appropriate mix of original work and (acknowledged) outside content that shows mastery of the material.
– Proper use of sources

Organization/Flow (8 pts)
– Main Points: The student has structured the paper to make the arguments or main points clear
– Transistions: The student competently uses transitions between points
– Sentence Structure: The student properly uses parallel and contrasting sentence structures
– Fluidity: The student's writing is fluid and clear

Writing Mechanics (8 pts)
– Grammar: The student uses correct grammar
– Spelling and Punctuation: The student makes essentially no spelling or punctuation mistakes
– Citations: Citations are formatted correctly

Content Fundamentals (8 pts)
– Content: The student presents enough technical content to address the assignment
– Terminology: The student correctly uses appropriate technical terms
– Correctness: The paper contains no factual errors.

Purpose/Thesis (4 pts)
– The purpose or thesis is on the assigned topic, strong, and clear from the introduction, and remains consistent through the conclusion.

Tone and Style (10 pts)
– The student properly uses formal language
– The student uses first, second, and third-person appropriately
– The student uses the assigned file format and document style