**Healthy People, Healthy Places, Spring, 2013**

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**Journal Assignment Guidelines**

The journal assignment has 2 parts. We have text to read.  Some are chapters in textbook, others are items on my www site. or PSU library. For each chapter, etc.  students write a brief summary.  A summary is just that.  What was the content?  The point of the article.  Objective. No opinion.  Pretend I or lover or parent has said, So what was that article about?  The purpose is to make sure students have read the assignment and comprehended the content and can summarize it.  This should take no more than 10 minutes per chapter.  
  
Secondly, once a week students turn in ONE critical inquiry for the week. It is a reflection about any or all of the content-- the readings, class lectures and discussions, group work, videos if shown, lecturers, content from other classes or news events.  It could be something that peaks the student’s interest.  Or a theme they perceive across the content. Or questions. Or they might disagree with the authors or want to elaborate on a point from the readings.  The purpose is to see if the students not only comprehend the material but are thinking about it.  Are they able to analyze what they are reading? Are they engaged in the material. This should take longer.  30-40 minutes.

Note: journal assignments only due on weeks when readings are assigned.

Students do not need to turn in the summaries until mid term. They should turn in the reflections by Friday each week via email. Around mid-term students will turn in all assignments completed: summaries and crtical inquiries. Assignment should be in typed format. Instructor will provide a tentative grade. Students have 2 weeks to make improvements based on suggested to improve their grade.

ALL work will be submitted at the end of the term. Do not throw away earlier work. All journal assignment should be submitted in typed format.

Summaries--Brief, objective, no opinion, main points. how would you summarize what you read to me or a friend. Clear. Succinct. Best method: write summary immediately after reading. 10 minutes. Purpose of summary: Shows me you have read the assignment, have basic comprehension of the material and can write clearly and succinctly. It can be one of the most difficult kinds of writing and one you will need in most jobs.

Critical Inquiry--Time to reflect on anything or everything for the week: reading, class lectures and discussions, group work, videos if shown, lecturers, content from other classes or news events.  30-45 minutes. This section of the assignment tends to be most important. Pull out themes..or the most interesting thing I learned this week was....I was disturbed to find out....I don't understand....argue, disagree, expand, elaborate, compare and contrast . Reflection assessment based on: that you not only comprehend but are thinking about the material; that you can analyze, synthesize and critically respond to what you read. Also that you are bringing all knowledge to the assignment.