

Week 4 Assignments

Journal Response

I've posted a generalized response to Week 3 Journals under Week 3 assignments. This response constitutes general feedback so far on our course as a whole and specific information about grading, assignments, and expectations. Please take a few minutes to read it.

Week 4 Lecture

Since the due dates for the Discussion Board will fall next weekend, I will post a lecture later this week (probably on Wednesday). I'll email you once this lecture is posted, to ensure you have a chance to read it. Keeping up with the lectures should allow you to keep track of where we are and where we are headed. This one will include more technical information about readings short stories.

Week 4 Reading Questions

I will continue to post reading questions each week, and from here on out, I'll stop reminding you that you don't need to officially submit the answers. The questions are to guide your reading. If you are to answer specific questions (in Discussion Board or the Journal, for instance), I will indicate that clearly.

Week 4 Discussion Board

The most intense portion of our coursework this week, besides the readings themselves, will be the Discussion Board. I am going to give you specific guidelines to follow. Please plan to devote time and attention to the DB.

Assignment: This week, I'd like you to craft a response between 600 and 800 words long that compares and contrasts different authors' views on science. You can choose any THREE readings you like from this week, though you must discuss AT LEAST ONE STORY AND AT LEAST ONE POEM. I would like to know what you think each author's attitude towards science is, why (provide some evidence from the story/poem), and how these attitudes either match up or diverge. Please plan to take this seriously and write a complete response. You will not get credit for two sentences.

As a follow-up to this assignment, I'd like you to comment on AT LEAST TWO responses by your peers. Your comments don't need to be very long, but try to make them specific to the ideas expressed. As the syllabus states, this is where you make up for having class discussion in an online class.

Due Date: I will give you until **Sunday** to complete the Discussion Board, but please don't wait until midnight Sunday night to start. It is hard to have a 'conversation' if no one is interacting. Thus, if you can get a response posted earlier, please try. Ideally, having your first post completed by **Friday or Saturday** would allow us time to process the discussion and provide useful responses.

General Comments

Please take some time with the readings and with your DB post. This is a chance for you to show how you are progressing in the course (or for some of you to show that you are actually still enrolled in the course). I'm also currently working on your first Paper topics, so I will email you once they are completed.

Warning

The Pynchon story for this week is complicated. I'm aware of this fact. Please use the Reading Questions and Lecture to help guide you.