Think Sheets

What: A one (1) page, typed, topical, discursive paper.

Goal: To codify your thoughts into a coherent, critical, and personal body of writing.

The purpose of a Think Sheet is to get your thoughts out of your head and into a format that requires you to focus, synthesize, and edit your ideas about the assigned readings. It is very important that Think sheets express YOUR OWN thoughts on the topic, rather than summarize or offer literary critique. These think sheets are not "reading reports" and should spend little (to no) time summarizing the reading. You can definitely be creative with these think sheets but your writing should address that week's reading and it should engage with it critically.

The following considerations will determine the score your paper:

TOPIC Does the Think Sheet address the specific reading?

COURSE RELEVANCE Are the thoughts synthesized and related to the themes and ideas

presented in lecture and discussion section?

CRAFT Is the Think Sheet clear and well-written?

CRITIQUE Does the Think Sheet present observations, insights and

examples that demonstrate an attempt to engage with the reading

in a meaningful way?

Remember, under no circumstances should a Think Sheet be used to regurgitate information from the readings or lectures. In order for you to get something out of this exercise, it is paramount that you offer personal insights and examples. Be thoughtful, be critical, be personal, and take risks!

Always, this assignment is to be limited to the front of ONE PAGE. You may add citations in the form of footnotes at the bottom of the page and/or relevant images and sketches to the back of the page (sourced if necessary). Successful Think Sheets are in depth and informative while also concise.

Important: You only need to complete 5 of the 8 possible think sheets. Everyone MUST complete Think Sheet #1 (due date TBA), but the remaining 4 required can be chosen as desired. You may complete a total of 6 think sheets if you would like your lowest grade to be dropped.