INSTRUCTIONS FOR FINAL PROJECT: OPPRESSION & JUSTICE (FALL 2013)

You should find a topic relevant to the course that excites you. The topic should be manageable; in other words, "racism in the criminal system" is not a manageable topic because it is too vast. Narrow in on a smaller topic that you can lay out and discuss critically. Once you find an alluring issue, you will need to research some of the necessary facts related to the topic, and you will also need to reflect on the relevant arguments that scholars have published. Then you need to make your own contribution to the debate. This project is meant to serve as a launching pad in case you wish to pursue it in the future for advocacy or scholarship purposes. You are free to take up any well-argued and well-researched position you find compelling. You need to email me by November 1st what your idea is for this project (failure to do so will affect your participation grade). Your project can be in one of four formats: 1) a traditional term paper, 2) a website, 3) a videotaped scripted debate on the topic (uploaded to YouTube, Vimeo, or something similar) or 4) an extended Power Point/Prezi/Keynote (which you would not present). If you have another idea for a project format, you need to have it approved by me. *Regardless of which format you choose, your project should be 1800 words in length.* You need to a) lay out the ethical issue, b) explain and analyze some published philosophical viewpoints on the topic, c) carefully and precisely argue how you believe the problem should be understood or resolved, d) **identify and analyze an implication for personal responsibility for specific moral actors,** and e) provide a compelling objection to *your* position. If you have the space, I will give extra points for including a nicely reasoned response to the objection. The final project is due on December 16th (our final exam day). Submit the paper, website content and link, video transcript and link, or Power Point/Prezi/Keynote PDF through Blackboard SafeAssign.

FOR A TRADITIONAL TERM PAPER:

- Submit to Blackboard SafeAssign as .pdf or .doc(x) file.

FOR A WEBSITE:

- Copy and paste the substantive content (you can omit navigation bar, interactive elements) into a word document (.pdf or .doc(x)), and include the URL to your website at the top of the first page. Submit this file to Blackboard SafeAssign.

- It makes the most sense to organize the parts of your argument into tabs, pages, and subpages. There are many free website options out there—Blogger, Weebly, Wordpress, etc.
- You can include bulleted lists as well as full paragraphs.
- Your website can include pictures, videos, and interactive elements. If you borrow media or material from elsewhere, make sure you cite it (a link will suffice for pictures).

FOR A TAPED DEBATE:

- Type up the script of your debate into a document (.pdf or .doc(x)), and include the URL to where your video is uploaded at the top of the first page. Submit this file to Blackboard SafeAssign.
- You can include bulleted lists as well as full paragraphs.
- If you borrow media or material from elsewhere, make sure you cite it.
- Include a cast/crew list. Fellow students are allowed to participate in your video, but they will not receive class credit for it (only you will).

FOR A POWER POINT OR PREZI:

- Save as a .pdf document (yes, both PPT and Prezi let you do this), and submit to Blackboard SafeAssign.
- You can include bulleted lists as well as full paragraphs.
- Your presentation can include pictures and links. If you borrow media or material from elsewhere, make sure you cite it (a link will suffice for pictures).

FOR A CREATIVE WORK (E.G, SHORT STORY)

- Notify Laura if you want to pursue this option.
- It is strongly suggested that you provide annotations or footnotes that make your concepts and philosophical argument (and citations) as clear and precise as possible. The word count still applies.
- Submit to Blackboard SafeAssign as .pdf or .doc(x) file.