



Final Lecture: Summary

Assessment 1: Response Paper: 4 650 word answers.

- ▶ Most important thing here is to be 'succinct'. Short introductory sentence introducing argument and short concluding sentence summing up the essay.
- ▶ Don't overdo the points. It is a short response paper so focus on 2-3 points and make them as persuasive as you can. Make sure these points link well with each other
- ▶ Research is useful but structure, thought, and impact is more important here. You want to try and hit on the key points as best as possible, so before you start have a think- what are the MOST IMPORTANT elements to address in the question?

Research Paper/Main Essay Question.

- ▶ INTRODUCTION: VERY IMPORTANT. YOUR INTRODUCTION SHOULD SPELL OUT THE ARGUMENT IN THE REMAINDER OF THE PAPER. THINK OF IT AS A ROADMAP FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE ESSAY.
- ▶ CONCLUSION: THIS SHOULD NOT INTRODUCE NEW INFORMATION BUT SHOULD SIMPLY 'SUM UP THE CONTENT'
- ▶ MAKE SURE YOUR INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSION ACCURATELY SUMMARISE THE CONTENT OF THE ESSAY.

MAIN BODY

- ▶ YOU NEED AN ARGUMENT: ONE OVERARCHING ARGUMENT THAT SHOULD BE SPELLED OUT IN YOUR INTRODUCTION. WHAT, FUNDAMENTALLY, IS THE 'POINT' YOU ARE TRYING TO MAKE IN YOUR RESEARCH PAPER?

▶ ENGAGE WITH LITERATURE, DON'T JUST DESCRIBE IT. HOW DO THE POINTS MADE IN THE SOURCE YOU ARE USING ENHANCE YOUR WIDER ARGUMENT?

▶ COHESION: MAKE SURE YOUR POINTS FOLLOW LOGICALLY ON FROM EACH OTHER. THINK OF EACH POINT AS A 'BUILDING BLOCK' TO YOUR FINISHED PRODUCT.

- ▶ USE SIGNPOSTING LANGUAGE TO GUIDE THE READER: E.g. Now that I have demonstrated (X), I will go on to demonstrate (Y). Lead the reader through your argument.

DISCUSSION QUESTION.

- ▶ We have studied the roots of Inequality and Injustice in the UK and US. Now, Attempt to construct your ideal society. How would you address questions of

- ▶ A) Racial Injustice
- ▶ B) The Patriarchy
- ▶ C) Economic Injustice and Capitalist Exploitation
- ▶ D) Animal Welfare and the Rights of Non-Human Animals.

Course Synopsis 1. Brexit: Key ideas.

- ▶ Right Wing Populism: Political ideology that seeks to champion a fictional 'common people' against an 'elite' of outsiders: Foreigners, intellectuals, etc.
- ▶ Driven by historical factors, most notably colonialism which gave a sense of nostalgia and superiority and forged the idea of an 'exceptional' (white?) past Britain.
- ▶ Nostalgia played upon to provide simple solutions of a return to a 'past, independent' Britain to override the obvious socio-economic damage caused by Brexit.

Course Synopsis 2: Trump, Racism,

- ▶ American Founded on two, antagonistic visions: the 'Horizontal' America of Immigrants and Freedom and Liberty and the 'Vertical' America which was premised in Racism, genocide, and a racial hierarchy with White men at the top.
- ▶ 'Two Americas' have fought for dominance. Obama represented the first, and Trump the lashback from the second.
- ▶ Systemic racism at the roots of many US problems- in education, police, justice system etc. BLM not only a protest against the killing of George Floyd but a rebellion against systemic racism more generally.

Synopsis 3. Feminism: Patriarchy and Intersectionality

- ▶ Our analysis demonstrated that despite legal equality and 'invisible' patriarchy which is an ideology of male dominance still exists in the UK and US and across the world.
- ▶ Premised on construction of masculinity and femininity in particular ways and in particular roles.
- ▶ Visible at all levels of society, in shops, magazines, and everywhere.
- ▶ Intersectionality also critical. Vital to understand the different women have different experiences based on other characteristics- race, sexuality, etc, and to prevent feminism being dominated by the concerns of white middle class women. Not 'one struggle' but many struggles.
- ▶ Important to also understand the ethical questions around the consumption of non-human animals, and the potential links between patriarchy and the consumption of meat.

Synopsis 4: The Economic Question

- ▶ Marx suggests capitalism is ruthless, leads to exploitation and inequality and 'alienates' us from our labour, making us depressed.
- ▶ Considerable evidence of this if we look at the world; outsourced 'proletariat' in third world countries.
- ▶ 'Neoliberalism' emerged as a ruthless variant of capitalism, destroying protections in developing countries and exploiting workers- examples include IMF and NAFTA.