

Enlightened Existence

Due Thursday 29 November @ Midnight

Step #1: Observation

Read Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" and Mary Catherine Bateson's "Composing a Life Story" and take notes on them. In both readings the authors consider the choices people make in life and how they will remember them in the future. Frost's work is relatively gender neutral in tone, whereas Bateson discusses the stereotypically different views of life men and women have traditionally had in our society. Do you agree or disagree with their assessments of the importance of choice? What about the significance they place on how important choices are remembered?

Step #2: Analysis

Next you will need to consider not only Frost and Bateson's ideas, but also those of the Enlightened thinkers we have studied *and* the scholars whose work we have read. Do any of the stories recounted in any of the readings resonate with your own life? How might teachings from the Enlightenment impact the choices you make in the future? Choose a specific type of decision or turning points in life that will enable you to analyze the readings with relation to at least one topic/theme we have discussed during the semester. To do this, you must use at least TWO authors or historical figures along with Frost and Bateson.

Step #3: Deriving Implications or Meanings

What conclusions can you draw as a result of your Observation and Analysis? Have you made a decision that you knew at the time was profound and would change your life? Is there a decision you've made that seemed inconsequential initially that became more meaningful later? Is there any impact on your view of life more generally (people's motivations, choices people make, societal responses, or other) or about how you will live your life moving forward?

Your final paper should walk through all three of these steps, though it does not need to be in distinctly separate/segregated paragraphs. It should be clear that you have carefully observed the views of Frost, Bateson, and the other writers you choose to include. What are some questions the decision raises for you about how we do or ought to live our lives in the 21st-century? In other words, can we become a more Enlightened society if we change the ways we think about making decisions? Your conclusions do not need to be definite, however you should articulate where you stand in your uncertainty at the end of the process.

In-class proofreading session

Class on the 29th will be devoted to proofreading papers. Bring a copy with you, and be prepared to do some proofreading yourself. 😊

Technical specifics

Your paper must be 1000-1500 words long, typed, double-spaced, and in 12-pt. font with 1-inch margins. Use the first person judiciously when writing your paper. You must use *Chicago Manual of Style* footnotes for all the information you utilize (see reverse for more details). You can either print your paper and give it to Dr. Myers in advance of the deadline or e-mail it. Do not forget to put your name on your paper.

Turnitin

You will also submit your paper as your "Artifact" for the INTG Portfolio. Details to follow.

Using Footnotes

For any piece of information or ideas you use from another source, you must provide a reference. Let me repeat that...for *any* piece of information or ideas you use from another source, you must provide a reference. In addition, you must place quotation marks around any direct wording you take from a source, even if it is only three or four words. As a general rule, you should have at least one footnote per paragraph in your paper. You may list more than one source in the footnote to save you making too many of them, but you must have all the knowledge you have “borrowed” properly cited.

For this paper, please use footnotes. Your computer will automatically insert them for you. To insert a footnote, place cursor at the end of the sentence and do as follows:

- ★ In the newest version of Microsoft Word (for Windows)...go to the Reference tab.
- ★ Click on "Add Footnote..."
- ★ Automatically a new "footnote" will come up at the bottom of your paper, set to the correct footnote number you should be on. At that point you will type in your reference information according to *The Chicago Manual of Style*. After you are finished, you can move your cursor back to the main text of your paper with your mouse. It is also good to know that you can cut, paste, and copy footnotes just as you can any other text (by highlighting the number in the paper itself and performing whichever function you need) and all the reference information will move along with the number.
- ★ Footnotes are normally in 10pt. font.
- ★ Do not change the default settings the computer uses for your footnotes, they should all be correct already.
- ★ There will NEVER be two footnotes with the same number.
- ★ Finally, footnotes are NOT footers and should not be in your footer.

If you have any additional questions, do not hesitate to ask Dr. Myers for assistance.

Here are some examples to help you in laying out your references:

¹ INTG 334: Enlightened Scots, February 14, 2017.

² Mary Catherine Bateson, "Composing a Life Story," in Mark R. Schwehn and Dorothy C. Bass, eds., *Leading Lives That Matter: What We Should Do and Who We Should Be*, (Grand Rapids, MI and Cambridge: William B. Eerdsman Publishing Company, 2006), 461.

³ Robert Frost, "The Road Not Taken," in *Leading Lives That Matter*, 458.

⁴ Robert B. Loudon, *The World We Want: How and Why the Ideals of the Enlightenment Still Elude Us* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), 170.

⁵ Nicholas Phillipson, *Adam Smith: An Enlightened Life* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2010), 86-90.

⁶ "Edinburgh Lectures: Nicholas Phillipson," The University of Edinburgh, YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INiybcmN-YY> (accessed March 16, 2017).

⁷ Bateson, 462-3.

⁸ Class notes, April 6, 2017.

Note: If you have a copy of Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (available in the Bookstore). The formatting for a bibliography requires the information to be put in a slightly different order. Examples of this will be listed after B: in Turabian's guide, while footnote formats are listed after N: for each type of source.