

Philosophy 210

Identified

Civic Discourse
Communication
Digital Literacy
Scientific Literacy

Assignment (Covers All): Science vs. Pseudoscience

In this paper assignment, the student must answer the following question:

Can the study of paranormal activity such as ghosts, ESP, bigfoot etc. be considered scientific?

Students may answer yes or no to this question. However, their analysis must incorporate and apply the material covered in class, especially concerning the definition and methods of science, laws, experiments, explanations etc.

This analysis must demonstrate careful reflection, original thinking, attention to detail, and application of the reasoning strategies that were discussed at the beginning of class. Further, it is expected that students will implement (i) material taken from the textbook, (ii) material discussed in class, and (iii) at least one scholarly source outside the textbook (i.e., No websites allowed!!! Only books from academic presses and/or scholarly journal articles may be used. Any material used in the paper must be cited appropriately (even the textbook).

All papers must be 1900-2100 words in length. They must be typed, double spaced, stapled, 1 inch margins, properly formatted to meet MLA standards, and include a Works Cited page. Any paper that does not cite properly is guilty of plagiarism and will receive an automatic 0.