

# Critical Reading & Engagement Assignments

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*The ability to engage fully with critical ideas is an important goal of this course, so that together, we might explore new perspectives in response to a deepening understanding of theory and ideology. As such, active engagement with readings and class materials is necessary for class success. Students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate this close critical reading and share their ideas and knowledge, including an online discussion board and quizzes that foster an application of content and lectures.*

## Reading Quizzes: Demonstrate Close Reading (10-20 pts each)

Quizzes ask students to note and recount main elements from class materials to make connections. Questions come from all module materials, including critical readings, videos, lectures, and other resources. Quizzes also ask students to apply these concepts to primary texts, and in order to successfully complete a quiz, students should read/watch all material in the module, including primary texts.

Quizzes typically consist of matching and short answer questions that rely upon careful reading and require students to use details and evidence from the text to draw conclusions and offer an interpretation or application of lecture and other module materials.

Questions ask students to “remember” (aka, recall a fact from lectures/materials), “interpret” (apply a concept to show understanding), and “analyze” (make a connection between texts and materials).

## In-Class Activities: Engage with Colleagues (20 pts ea)

Students will discuss class content and relevant readings with their colleagues in a hybrid-class format (meeting once per week). During class, we’ll engage in activities wherein all students will have a chance to participate and earn 20 points for joining in these activities each week. Occasionally, students may be asked to prepare a small research-driven item to bring to class to begin the activities and/or engagement elements of class, and in other instances, they may be asked to write a short “exit ticket” before leaving class. Additionally, some in-class activities may include a technology driven component, so a tablet, computer, or other device is necessary on most class days. Please see schedule for individual conference opportunities, which are in addition to class meetings.

This grade category allows for one dropped 20 point score (so that students can miss one class without penalty). Students must attend at least 10 of 11 classes to earn the full 200 points for the semester, but if extenuating and significant circumstances prohibit regular attendance, please talk to Dr. Meeusen in advance to make other arrangements.

***Note: Quizzes and in-class activities are graded primarily on completion. For full credit, students must attend class meetings and provide correct and specific details to support their answers/ideas and adhere to all requirements listed.***

