1-page outline including

A plan is a single-page assignment that will explain to me the topic you have chosen to write about, the argument you will be making about that topic, what readings you plan to cite, etc. You are strongly advised to submit a rough draft if you can, but only a brief outline is required.

Next

Description

You will submit a final paper constructing an ethical

argument using only the material covered in class

i.e. you will not be asked to do outside research.

Your final paper (5-7 pages)

12 font, Times New Roman, and double-spaced.

Also, the 5-7 page count is only the philosophical

content. The title page, the citations, etc. do not go

towards the final page count. A title page is not

necessary, but citations are. The citations style is

flexible (MLA, APA, Chicago, etc.). Just make sure

to give credit where it is due.

In the final paper, I'll expect you to find some topics in

our course readings that interests you. If you send

me some possible topics that interest you, then I

can help you narrow them down.

The purpose of a philosophy paper is to make

an argument. This argument can go a few different

ways…. Scenario #1: Writers have disagreed about my topic,

and my paper explains why one side in the debate

has been more convincing than the other(s).

Scenario #2: Writers have disagreed about my

topic, and my paper demonstrates why the entire

debate is wrong and needs to be recast in a more

meaningful direction.

Scenario #3: Writers have agreed about my topic,

and my paper argues for a different, better, or more

nuanced interpretation that others have missed.

('writers' here could be other scholars or simply

your classmates) First, your paper must start with a summary of

what you're dealing with (what is the argument,

what are its key assumptions and terms,

etc.). Clarity is highly valued in philosophical

writing. Writers should get right to the point rather

than writing an elaborate introduction. A dry

sentence like, "In this paper, I will..." is absolutely

fine. Make sure your reader (me) understands your

plan for your paper. Don't take anything for granted.

Then you have options..

You might find a weak point in someone's

argument. You can object to it, and then either

provide a solution or an alternative argument.

Or maybe you build upon the original argument with

your own steps to come to a different conclusion

(without disrupting the original argument).

In any approach, it is good to consider possible

objections to your own points. Why would anyone

disagree with you? What possible

counterarguments could someone make to your

position? Try to refute them in some way by

showing that they are irrelevant, misguided, or

otherwise fail to discredit your argument. A conclusion in your paper is not necessary unless

you want to draw my attention to the main points

again. If you made your argument well, then I won't

need a conclusion to remember it.

There are thousands of resources on Google to help

write philosophy papers. Here are a few:

<https://www.earlymoderntexts.com/assets/ifb/beng>

or.pdf

<https://philosophy.dept.shef.ac.uk/papers/PryorWRI>

TE.pdf

[https://philosophy.fas.harvard.edu/files/phildept/...](https://philosophy.fas.harvard.edu/files/phildept/file)

s/brief\_guide\_to\_writing\_philosophy\_paper.pdf

I am more than happy to answer questions you have

during the writing process.