

CTI 100 EA
Dr. Morrison
Fall 2020

Due date: Monday, October 12, at the beginning of class. Please submit your essay to Moodle.

Weight: This assignment is worth 20% of your final grade.

Modern Western Individualism Out-of-Class Essay

E.O. Wilson and John Stuart Mill each make compelling arguments for diversity in *Consilience* and *On Liberty*, respectively. Write an essay in which you explain Wilson and Mill's views of the value of diversity, taking into account in specific ways their ideas and principles. As you write your essay, please address the following:

1. Wilson's view of the value of biodiversity in Chapter 12 and the implications of Wilson's arguments about biodiversity for human populations;
2. Mill's view of the value of diversity (of ideas, experiments of living) for individuals and society more broadly;
3. The ways in which their views on diversity can be compared and contrasted;
4. The ways in which their ideas about diversity reflect their views of ethics.

The purpose of this paper is to give you an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge of *On Liberty* and *Consilience*. You should write a clear, concise essay that focuses your knowledge of the texts on the prompt. Be sure to address the prompt. If you have questions about the assignment, be sure to ask me for clarification.

You need to include a carefully worded thesis in your introduction that states the general conclusion that you will defend in the body of the paper. Your thesis should state clearly and concisely what conclusion you intend to defend. Avoid vague generalities. Be sure to ground your interpretation of Wilson and Mill by referring to specific passages in their texts. Avoid excessive quotations, as they will take valuable space that you can otherwise devote to your analysis.

Papers are to be 1000-1200 words in length, typed, and double-spaced. Each page must be numbered. Papers should adhere to MLA format, including using 12pt font and constructing a Works Cited page. Papers are due at the beginning of class on Monday, October 12. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Please remember that you are bound by the William Jewell College Honor Code.