

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL & BRAIN SCIENCES

PSYC430: PSYCHOLOGY OF PEACE AND ETHNIC RELATIONS

**READING ASSIGNMENT AND CRITICAL THINKING PAPER
INSTRUCTIONS**

You will be assigned seven (7) reading assignments (peer-reviewed journal articles) throughout the semester. Each reading assignment should be accessed in *Blackboard (Bb)* <https://blackboard.louisville.edu/> under the “Course Content” tab. A critical thinking paper is required for each reading assignment. The details of how to fulfill the reading assignment, and the relevant deadlines, are explained below.

After reading the assigned journal article, please answer the following questions in your own words and provide specific examples. Do not merely cut-and-paste from the journal article. (worth 2 points per question).

1. What was the main **purpose** of this study? (State as accurately as possible the researcher(s)’ purpose for writing the article or for doing the research.)
2. What is (are) the important **question(s) or the hypothesis** the researcher(s) of this article is trying to address? What are the key issues being addressed? *Do not simply restate the title.*
3. What **facts, data, evidence, or information** do you believe the researcher(s) uses to test the hypothesis of his/her study? *Please provide specifics from the article.* Be sure to include information that opposes as well as supports the hypothesis.
4. What are the main **inferences** from the results of this study? Be sure to distinguish between information and inferences drawn from that information.
5. What are the major **concepts** that the researcher(s) uses in his/her study?
6. What are the basic ideas or **assumptions** that the researcher(s) assumes (take for granted) that those reading this article know and agree with?
7. Do the researcher(s)’ **conclusions** follow from the data/evidence presented? Why or why not? How do the results of the study confirm/refute the original hypothesis?
8. What are the **implications** for future research in this area based upon the study results and the researcher(s)’ conclusions?

Write in complete sentences and paragraphs. – 2 points

Please type each paper using Times New Roman 12 pt. font and double-space. – 1 point

Typed reports should be uploaded to *Bb* under the “Assignments” tab by 9:00 p.m. (EST) on the due date listed in the *Course Schedule*. – 1 point

You may earn 20 points for each Reading Assignment and Critical Thinking Paper that includes all the requirements listed above for a maximum of 140 points.