

Theory Reading Analyses

5 points each

Completed through the semester

For each reading you have the opportunity, with the exception of the required text (*Our History is the Future*), to analyze the reading that is assigned on the given day of class. This also excludes the reading that coincide with your presentation/discussion.

The analysis should answer the following questions in paragraph form:

- What is the problem that the author defines in the reading?
- What is the argument that the author makes regarding the problem?
- What is the social context that is described and the details and data that is used to support their argument?
- Finally what is the meaning of specific terms or ideas that the author introduces that is important for the logic of their argument?

Together these question can be answered in 1 - 2 paragraphs depending on how concise one is and how much is elaborated. See my example on the Sociological Imagination.

After you answer the those questions in another paragraph, that needs to be no longer than 2-3 sentences, you will assess your subjective (based on experience and/or sensibility) evaluation of the reading which determines how you value the reading in part or as a whole.

Scoring: If you adequately answer each criteria you will receive the full 5 points. Incomplete answers or those that do not demonstrate adequate comprehension will be given 4 points, or no points (meaning that you can resubmit it as one of the two analyses that you can turn in after the assigned day).

Note:

- Do not quote from the reading to make your point. Specific quotes that help you understand are appropriate for your notes but not the content that you should be able to describe in your own words.
- The first two analyses should be received by March 19th and the remaining analyses by May 12th.