

Fall 2017
PHIL 1101, Section 01
Introduction to Philosophy
Third Paper Assignment
Prof. Douglas Ficek

Write a paper, at least six pages in length, on one of the following topics – preferably the one that you find the most interesting. Revise your work carefully, and remember to cite your sources correctly using APA, MLA, or Chicago guidelines. Your typed and stapled essay is due on Monday, December 18th at 10:00 a.m.

1. In *A Discourse on Inequality*, Jean-Jacques Rousseau tries to explain inequality by speculating about human beings in the state of nature. What is his argument, and what do you make of it?
2. In *The Racial Contract*, Charles W. Mills analyzes institutional racism (or white supremacy) and defends a non-ideal approach to political philosophy. What is his argument, and what do you make of it?
3. In *Existentialism Is a Humanism*, Jean-Paul Sartre defends existentialism as an optimistic, humanistic approach to philosophy. What is his argument, and what do you make of it?
4. In *We Should All Be Feminists*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie defends feminism, broadly speaking, by appealing to her own personal experiences. What is her argument, and what do you make of it?