Guidelines for Moderation Day (November 11, 2016)

Arrive at Preston 127 by 9am. You may have with you any general supplies (pens, pencils, highlighters) and any course materials that you find familiar and reassuring. You may bring your own laptop if you prefer, though you must still work in Preston.

Each of you will receive a journal article appropriate to your background in psychology. The articles will be distributed promptly at 9am.

Your goal for the day is to write a paper of approximately 10-12 pages that summarizes and analytically evaluates the article you have been assigned. **Your summary must be in your own words** and should include enough detail that someone who has not read your article will be able to accurately understand the content.

Your analysis of the article should provide constructive, analytic content regarding the data, methods, and conclusions of the researchers. This should make up a substantial portion of your paper. It need not be "critical" in the sense of being negative, but you should state whether, for example, the design of an experiment adequately tests the researchers' hypotheses (i.e., how does the experimental design, the stimulus set, or the task that the participants performed permit an adequate test of the hypothesis?). Your evaluation might also address the relationship between the actual experimental results and the implications of the results as described by the researchers. Lastly, you may comment on future research or propose questions that may be addressed in subsequent studies.

Faculty members will be available throughout the day to provide guidance, either in person or by email. There are limits to the amount of help we can provide. For example, we will not explain statistical methods in detail, but we will direct you to resources so that you will be able to comment on the experimental results in a manner that reflects your level of understanding. **You may not consult any individuals about your assigned article or your written response with the exception of faculty members in Psychology.**

You may consult internet resources during moderation, including statistics help pages online, and you must cite any internet sources you use. However, consulting websites that are not academic sites or are not peer reviewed may consume your valuable time and degrade the quality and depth of your own comments. In general, therefore, it is best to use internet resources minimally and focus strictly on reading closely the study that you have been assigned. There are some resources online that you may want to consult, such as the Oxford English Dictionary (through Stevenson Library), PsychInfo, and the American Psychological Association website regarding APA formatting guidelines (http://www.apastyle.org). If you use these resources, you do not need to cite them within your list of references. (Again, don't go overboard. Rely for the most part on your own analysis. It is most likely that your analysis will not need to include a list of references at all, just a citation on your cover sheet citing the single article that you have been assigned.)

You can leave the room to take breaks or eat lunch, but all your work must remain in Preston. Time spent outside of the room will not extend the amount of time you have remaining.

Remember to save your work <u>often</u> and email a copy of your writing to yourself at least every hour. Saving to the cloud or writing in google docs is also a good idea.

Proofread your work carefully. Format the paper according to the following standards: 1.5 inch left margin and 1-inch top, bottom, and right margins; double spaced, Times New Roman font (12pt). **Include a cover sheet with the full reference of your assigned article, your name, and the date.**

You must finish and upload your final, proofread moderation paper <u>no later than 9 pm</u>. You will upload this to the current Social Psychology Fall 2016 Moodle site. **Upload your paper as a pdf document named in the following format: [yourlastname].pdf. The link will be all the way at the bottom of the page.** Be sure to confirm that the correct version of your paper is uploaded. Text Kristin when you are done so she can confirm your file has uploaded correctly. If you finish before 9 pm, you may leave after you have submitted your work.

In addition:

Remember to <u>bring your moderation day paper, your source article, and your "looking back" / "looking ahead" short papers to your moderation board</u>. It is important that you review all of these papers and are ready to discuss them during your moderation board meeting.