21W.777 The Science Essay Spring 2009

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Leading Class Discussion of Readings

Each discussion leader is to prepare brief answers to these prompts and hand the sheet out to the class at the beginning of the discussion.

• Plan to meet with me for 10 minutes or so to go over your discussion sheets no later than the day before your discussion. If you are presenting as a team, you may prepare the sheet together and meet with me together.

Title

What does the title of the essay lead us to expect and/or how does it sum up the meaning of the essay?

Thesis

In 1-2 sentences, state the thesis of the essay. This may be a direct quote or your own paraphrase. Remember that the thesis (the "idea" as per my Resource sheet) should account for the most, and the most important, meaning in the essay.

Context

Name two or more contexts in which the idea matters.

Rhetoric

List 3 noteworthy elements of this essay's style and structure (you can use bullet points).

Getting into it

List 4 open-ended questions for the discussion that you will lead—i.e., questions that don't have a yes/no or short-phrase answer. For example, "Why do you think Featherstone introduces the idea of the warrior spirit at this point in his essay," or "What does the warrior spirit have to do with using robots in war?"