Ay 40: Assignments and Course Grades

Course grades will be based on written work done at home (60%), exams taken in class (35%), and a brief oral presentation (5%), broken down as follows:

- **Weekly writing assignments**, turned in at the start of the first class each week. (20%)
- **Problem sets**, given out occasionally during the middle of the term, turned in at the start of the second (Thursday) class of each week. (5%)
- **Midterm project**, consisting of a written paper (due May 5; 15%) and an oral presentation (given to the class on May 3; 5%). (20% total)
- **Final paper**, a book review, due by 5:00 PM Friday, June 10. (20%)
- **Final exam**, given during finals week, June 6 — June 10. (35%)

Note that your overall enthusiasm for the class will count heavily towards improving borderline grades, even raising grades not on the borderline. Enthusiasm can be demonstrated in many ways, including “class participation” (note that giving the sense that you are an engaged listener is considered to be just as important as actively contributing to the discussion), regular attendance (it is expected that you not miss more than 2 classes during the term), coming to office hours, and so forth.

A Note About Late Assignments

No late assignments will be accepted in this class. A late assignment will be considered a missed assignment. If you cannot make it to class for some reason on the day an assignment is due, it is your responsibility to turn the assignment in before the class meeting time; the preferred way to do this is to put it in my mailbox on the first floor of Robinson. Of course, everyone will have a time during the term that life outside of this class will conspire to make it difficult to complete a weekly assignment. Thus, one missed weekly writing assignment will be completely excusable during the term. In the event that all weekly assignments are turned in, the lowest grade will be dropped. As only a few problem sets will be assigned, it is expected that all of them will be turned in.