

**Reaction Paper Assignment**  
**MAS 490-001 Spring 2012**  
**Due Date: Thursday, February 9, 2012**

Here's the description of the Reaction Paper assignment, lifted directly from your course syllabus:

**Reaction Paper:** This assignment requires you to write a five-six page paper based on an explanation and analysis of, and personal reaction to, some specific component of the curriculum of this course. With that said, the subject matter of the paper is really your favorite subject: you. You will be asked to assimilate the first few lectures of the course and then write about what you have learned through the filter of your own life and experiences and the lives and experiences of your friends and family. Per the February 10 date in the schedule, be prepared to discuss your experiences.

This assignment requires you to describe your uses of mobile applications, as well as those of your friends and families. Drawing on examples from your life and from the lives of your nearest and dearest, evaluate yours and their mobile app use in the areas of education, civics/government, entertainment and retail. We have now discussed (or will have shortly) numerous examples of each category in class, so you should be aware of the multitude of possibilities. Examine and describe how your interpersonal interactions and other experiences, including commerce, passing the time (or wasting time), information-gathering, civic participation, and educational endeavors are mediated by the use of mobile apps. Don't forget that this can include the use of Facebook apps since you can do that on the run nowadays. Focus on how your lives, behaviors, and interactions have changed in the era of mobile apps. Talk to your friends and families in a systematic interview fashion. Pin them down on the specifics of their mobile app use. If you have to, change their names to protect both the innocent and the guilty. Try to have fun with this because, remember, this paper is about your favorite subject: you.

In terms of the format of this paper, just take the four categories in order and use subheadings for each. Remember that this is supposed to be a five to six page paper, which means a minimum of five FULL pages. Two lines into the fifth page won't do. Since there are four basic categories, you won't have any trouble filling up five to six pages. I won't mind if you go over if you need to. Of course, you should double space, but margins should be no larger than an inch. This is a 400-level class, so I'm expecting a high level of writing, especially as it relates to grammar, syntax, spelling, and coherence. But it would also be nice if it were interesting and even funny. Be prepared to discuss the gist of your paper and react to others' papers in a roundtable-type forum. In other words, some self-disclosure will be in order. Feel free to email me if you have questions.