

## **PHL 311 First report**

All of the reports for the course will have a similar format. The reports will be in four sections.

### Section 1: Introduction

The introduction shall include the reference to the item being reviewed and a brief presentation of the general topic being examined. A paragraph or two should be fine.

### Section 2: Presentation

This section shall present a brief summary of the content of the reading. The summary should present the overall content of the article and highlight what you take to be the importance of the piece. What you take to be the importance of the piece should be the point of departure for the next section. A page or two should be sufficient.

### Section 3: Discussion

This section shall include your appraisal of the position or argument that you identified as being important in section 2. This section should clearly state your opinion and your reasons for holding it. A page or two should be sufficient.

### Section 4: Conclusion and future directions

This section shall include your ideas about further research on the topic. It should be based on your appraisal in section 3 as well as your identification of the general topic in section 1. The objective is to indicate as clearly as possible what the next steps in investigating the topic might be. This is the place to raise questions and propose additional investigations. A page should be sufficient.

For the first report you may select from the following

The Future of Philosophy, Moritz Schlick

Biology and its Philosophy, Alex Rosenberg

Both are in *Philosophy of Science: Contemporary Readings* (Yuri Balashov, Alexander Rosenberg, Alex Rosenberg). You may use the material in Chapter 1 of *The Philosophy of Science: A Contemporary Introduction* (Alexander Rosenberg) to aid in the development of your ideas. Cite your references in an appropriate form. If you select either of these pieces for a report, the report will be due January 26, 2006.