

Reflection Paper General Instructions:

Throughout the semester, you will be asked to write weekly reflections on tutorial activities. The format of these reflections will be consistent throughout the semester; you will be asked to write a three paragraph reflection with each paragraph answering one of the following questions:

What?
So what?
What now?

Let's clarify the expectations for each of those paragraphs...

The *What?* paragraph is your opportunity to describe in clear and concise language what you did during tutorial. (There will be weekly prompts that clarify exactly what part of the tutorial you are expected to focus on.) This paragraph is your chance to practice writing in a form consistent with a methods section for a research report. This means that you should offer just enough detail that the reader understands what you did without so much detail that the key points are lost. If you keep the length of this paragraph to 5-6 sentences, you should be in the right zone.

The *So what?* paragraph moves from description to analysis. What did you learn from this activity? Why is it important? Why does it matter? This paragraph does not have a particular format; it is really about your thoughts and assessment. Communicate your ideas clearly and, where appropriate, use examples from the activity to support your ideas.

The *What now?* paragraph is your chance to think ahead to your final research proposal. What did you learn from this activity that might be useful for your final research proposal? How might you use the ideas or techniques discussed for your own research? If you do not think the ideas or activities relate to your future proposal, say that and explain why.

For all three paragraphs, you are welcome to use either first or third person voice. Because these are personal reflections, we would expect you to use first person, but if you are more comfortable writing in the third person, that is acceptable as well.

You are expected to complete the first reflection paper and then five of the remaining seven papers. In other words, you get two free weeks during the semester. You can decide when you want to take them.

All reflection papers will be marked out of 3% (30 points) using the following rubric:

Paragraph	Excellent (100%)	Average (75%)	Weak (50%)	Incomplete (0%)
What? (1%)	Strong focus on aspect of activity being examined. Sufficient detail that activity could be replicated without extraneous detail. Clear and concise writing without errors.	General description of activity. Either inclusion of slightly extraneous details or not enough detail. Writing is strong enough it does not distract from meaning.	Activity is described, but without focus or clarity. Too much or too little detail. Sentence structure and/or grammar are not strong, distracting from meaning.	Paragraph is not present or so partial it is insufficient to fulfill the requirements of the assignment.
So what? (1%)	Strong critical analysis of concept and/or method. Demonstration of independent thinking. Clear and concise writing without errors.	Moves beyond description to examine some implications of concept and/or method. Writing is strong enough it does not distract from meaning.	Limited analysis of concept and/or method – mostly description. Sentence structure and/or grammar are not strong, distracting from meaning.	Paragraph is not present or so partial it is insufficient to fulfill the requirements of the assignment.
What now? (1%)	Critically assesses the potential of the concept and/or method to support the future research proposal. Demonstration of independent thinking. Clear and concise writing without errors.	Describes how the concept and/or method could be used in future research. Writing is strong enough it does not distract from meaning.	Discussion of future research, but unclear how the concept and/or method will be applied. Sentence structure and/or grammar are not strong, distracting from meaning.	Paragraph is not present or so partial it is insufficient to fulfill the requirements of the assignment.