Assignment #1: Due September 23rd at 9:00am

Please log onto Blackboard and look in the Course Documents folder for more information about this assignment.

Assignment #2: Due October 5th at 9:00am

During the week of October 5-9, you’ll have a chance to meet with your JEP Program Assistant to talk about how your JEP placement is going. For this assignment, turn in a few questions (3-5) or issues that you want to talk about with your PA. Submit your comments (approximately a paragraph) the same way you would submit any other journal through Blackboard. Rather than providing written comments, your PA will discuss the issues with you during your chat. This is a great time to talk about anything that has been particularly difficult or unexpected, as well as things that you are worried about. For example, how is the workload, how you are relating to the people at your site? Are you having any problems with any of the logistical aspects of your assignment (e.g., schedule, transportation, Blackboard access, etc.)? The meeting will last about 15 minutes. Since it will be one-on-one, tailor it to what will be most helpful to you.

Assignment #3: Due October 26th at 5:00pm

The Right to Education
In PHIL 140 you are studying and debating several contemporary moral controversies. One controversy that is not emphasized in your textbook is the moral and ethical obligation of the state to provide education to its residents. Why is education considered a right? What are the moral and ethical reasons for the state to provide education? And what does “education” mean, that is, what should be included in government-provided education? For example, should education include traditional disciplines such as reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, as well as extra-curricular activities, food and nutrition, physical education and arts education? What else could be offered through public education? Make an argument for which of these should be part of state-provided education, and which should not. In what ways is the school that you are involved with through JEP offering the aspects of education that you argue should be provided by the state? Also, what is not offered?

Assignment #4: Due November 16th at 5:00pm

Race and Discrimination in Education
In the United States, racial discrepancies in academic performance are often discussed, and research findings indicate that ethnic and racial minorities tend to perform more poorly on average than White students. However, it is difficult to determine what the contribution of racism and discrimination is to students’ performance. Do you think racism and discrimination have played a role in the academic performance and/or opportunities of the students’ with whom you interact with in your JEP placement? Why, or why not? Please illustrate your argument with examples from your JEP experience. What factors besides racism and discrimination can impact students’ educational opportunities and academic performance?

Assignment #5: TBA

This assignment will be assigned later in the semester.