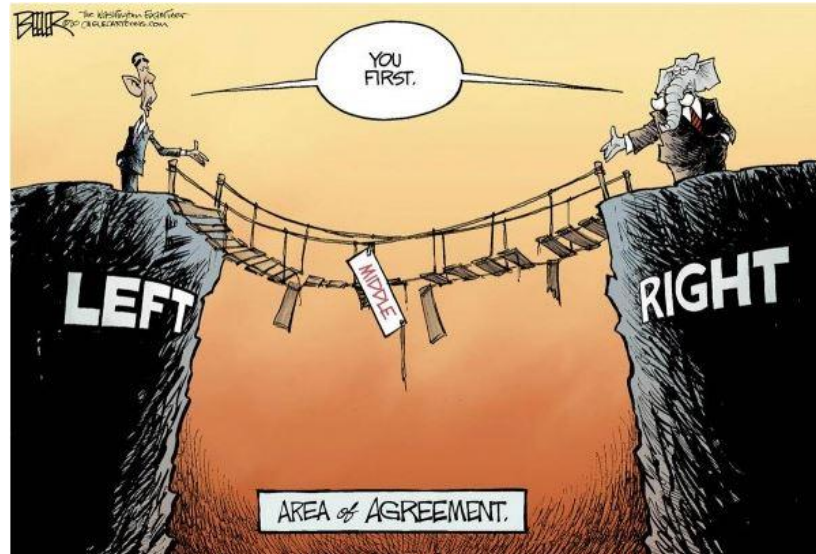# RP2 – Reflection Paper #2, Clash of Ideologies

Material: Giddens textbook (several chapters, especially C13), Internet sources

Submit: Hardcopy and also via D2L Dropbox (e.g. submit both ways, by deadline)

Grading Points: 13% of your overall grade (i.e. 3 papers = 40% total)

Length & Format

Please submit a 3.0 page (minimum) typed paper, in APA style, maximum of 6.0 pages, double-spaced with Times New Roman 12-pitch font, with a minimum of 3 expert sources (listed on your references page in APA style) and a minimum of 6 citations (within your paper, where you cite these sources in APA style), where the mandatory title page and references pages are not counted in the length, in which you do the following:

Instructions

Reflection Paper 2 – Clash of Ideologies

For this reflection paper, please describe the core ideas of the current political parties in the United States, and describe which of their ideas you consider to be "crazy" or "sane" (in your opinion), and "normative" or "deviant" with respect to the broader mainstream culture of the United States (give statistics when available).   Based on your observations and critical reasoning, what is the social genesis of some of these ideas? That is, how did they arise? How are they connected to deeper cultural values

in the U.S.? Which of them are "rational" or "irrational" in your opinion, subject to factual errors or psychological biases? Finally, is there any way forward in this polarized environment – that is, can the American public every come together on things that we all value and believe, or are we forever assigned to a permanent gridlock of different ideologies? Follow all of the same Reflection Paper rules for length, formatting, and paper organization (see all instructions above and below).

All Reflection Papers (40%)

You will have three reflection papers which allow you to focus on the special class topic of "crazy ideas" and "ideology." For each, please include a title page and references page . Each reflection paper should be a minimum of three (3) full pages of text (spilling over onto the 4th page), not including the title and references pages. The maximum length of any reflection paper should be six (6) pages. Please use APA style, double-spacing, and Times New Roman 12-pitch font. Use page numbering, with no number on your title page and page 1 beginning on the first full page of text. A sample paper will be provided to assist you with this formatting, and other instruction will be given. Only one submission will be accepted per assignment, so please proof-read your work carefully and make sure you are uploading the correct file. Your project may *not* be in two pieces, with one being a title page and the other being your paper. You *must* submit the entire assignment as a single document. Each assignment submission should have a minimum of grammatical or mechanical errors, and all assignments with more than three (5) errors will be returned without a grade. Revisions may not always be possible, so please edit and proofread carefully.

As you write each paper, give plenty of "sociological terms and concepts," along with clear application of these concepts to your chosen theme or topic. Use clear, creative writing, beginning with an introductory argument (opening paragraph) for the importance of cultural ideas, or the need to understand them, or whatever your idea is. The way you organize your paper should be freely chosen, but it should "flow" and make sense to the reader. Please include a "paper preview" at the end of your first paragraph, and a "conclusion" as your final paragraph. Please remember that three (3) full pages is the minimum length! Any reduction of required length will proportionately reduce your grade, no matter how wonderful your paper is! So, for instance, a two (2) page paper will reduce the maximum grade to 67%, and that's before I subtract for mistakes or misspellings. No extra spaces should be included within your paper (either at the beginning or the end, or between paragraphs), and Times New Roman 12-pitch font should be used for everything. I will take out these extra spaces, or reduce the font size, etc., because I calculate length.

Use APA style with the entire paper, with the exception that I do not need page headers. I would like page numbers, however, with the title page <u>not</u> numbered, and the first full page numbered as page 1, then the next as 2, and so on. Your citations should be in APA style as well (see examples later in this syllabus), and your references page. Numbers 10 or bigger may be written as numerals (10, 12, 58, etc.) but numbers under ten should be written out – two, five, eight, etc., unless they are numbers that describe something else, such as Chapter 1, Chapter 2, numbers in a series or used within a mathematical expression, and so forth. Avoid common grammatical errors – there, their, they're; effect for affect and vice versa, ect. instead of etc. (the etc. is the correct way), alot (incorrect) versus "a

lot" (two words, correct), every day (correct, two words) instead of "everyday" (one word, which is correct only when used as an adjective, such as in "everyday event.") Please paragraph appropriately, which means every 5-8 sentences, or every third to half a page. Do not include extra spaces between paragraphs.

This is a lot to remember, so please look at the sample paper provided on D2L, and pay attention in class when I go over the formatting of these papers! This isn't English class, but really, every class where you have writing to do is "English class," as will be every job situation in the future where you need to use English to communicate as a professional. So, now that we have covered some formatting details, here are the three reflection papers you are to write. Remember that these formatting instructions apply to ALL reflection papers.

Paper Policies. Here are the policies for all reflection papers. The toughest standard for you to reach might be the five-error policy, but you should also pay attention to the following requirements.

1. Title Page. A title page is required for each written assignment. Please include the formal assignment title and a creative title as well, your name, the class name and professor (me, Dr. Greg Sanders), and the date. Use the paper template to help you with this.
2. Page Length. As specified per assignment, starting on your first full page of text. This title page is not included in your paper length requirement, nor is a bibliography page.
3. Font Style. Times New Roman 12-pitch font only. (The text on this page is Times New Roman 10-pitch). Do not have any over-sized (or under-sized) fonts, even on your title page, and no other font styles. Do not use any underlining or bolding, and no graphics, pictures, or special formatting unless special permission is received.
4. Spacing. Use double-spacing for the entire document, default MS Word margins (1-inch margins on top and bottom, 1.25" on left and right margins), and no extra spacing at the beginning of the first page, at the beginning or end of any page, at the end of the last page, and also place no extra spacing between paragraphs. You might need to go into your paragraph parameters and take off any auto-function that is putting in extra spaces in your document.
5. Page Numbers. Use page numbers, which should be located at the top center or top right. No page number should be on your title page, and your first full page of text should be page 1. To accomplish this, please Google how to do this, or use the paper template provided on D2L.
6. Unified Document. Any paper must be submitted to the D2L Dropbox as a unified document, not as two separate documents (for instance, a title page, and then a paper), and must be in Microsoft Word format. To make sure you can submit only one document, but also have the page numbering right (page 1 as the first page of your paper, not the title page), please Google how to do this, or use the paper template provided on D2L.
7. References Page. A references page is required, and textbook sources are required to be included on all reflection papers, along with at least one other independent reference. You should have a minimum number of three (3) sources for each paper, which can include your textbook(s).
8. Citations in Paper. Include six (6) citations in each reflection paper, at least two for each of your three required sources, in APA style. APA style puts the author's last name, and the year of public, in parentheses, unless you use the author's name in the sentence. Consult examples on the internet. If you have more sources on your references page, make sure that you have a citation in the body of your paper for each of these sources. Don't include a source in your references page, in other words, that you don't also include as a citation in your paper.

9. <u>APA Style</u>. Use APA style for everything, including your sources and citations.
10. <u>Minimal-Error Policy</u>. Only five (5) misspellings or gross grammatical errors are allowed for reflection paper submissions. Two points will be deduced for each grammatical error (including punctuation errors) and misspellings. If your errors exceed this five-error standard, the paper will be returned to you without a grade.

Thank you for adhering to these paper policies. If you take these standards serious and work hard at achieving them, they will actually be your servants in helping you to create some high-quality papers!