If you wish to be heard, first learn to listen. If you seek to lead others, first learn to lead yourself. Rev. Peter Donohue O.S.A., President, Villanova University
Augustine and Culture Seminar 1001 V03, V04
Modernity and its Discontents
Spring 2010

Paper Self-Evaluation

Name: ________________________________    Date:  __________

These are the basic categories that we will use in evaluation. As the semester goes on, we will add some new categories but this should give you a good start.

1. Mechanics. Paper has date, title, your name, my name, no problems with grammar or spelling, all quotations cited properly, no secondary sources consulted, or, if secondary sources have been used, they are cited even if you did not refer to them directly.
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

2. Assignment. My paper fulfills the assignment.
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

3. Introduction. My intro gives general topic of the paper and introduces the thesis. Avoids broad generalizations (for example, “since the dawn of time, men have . . . ‘).
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

4. Paragraphs. Body paragraphs typically begin with a topic sentence that supports some aspect of the thesis.
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

5. Argument. Paragraphs provide good reasons for believing the thesis, supported by evidence from the text. Paper is written for someone who does not necessarily agree with the thesis.
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

6. Textual evidence. Textual evidence is carefully chosen, from multiple places in the text, not entirely by passages discussed in class, and properly cited.
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

7. Conclusion. Final paragraph adds something to the paper rather than summarizing what the audience has just read (for example, suggests broader implications, new directions or questions).
   __ Strongly Agree    __ Somewhat Agree    __ Somewhat Disagree    __ Strongly Disagree

8. The points above are general rules that often work. Some topics, however, require a different treatment. If you have not followed some of these principles, be prepared to explain why the thesis you are defending requires a different kind of approach.