

Writing 109ST Assignment #5

Reflective Assignment

Objective

Reflective writing permits us a ‘raw’ response to work—that is, without the the usual degree of analysis, evaluation, interpretation, etc. that we typically apply to academic writing. For this assignment, you will have two options:

- 1) Write a reflective response to any of our primary readings on the course readings webpage; or,
- 2) View Peter Nicks’ 2012 documentary, *The Waiting Room*—which uses a [cinéma vérité](#) style of cinematography to follow the patients, staff, and doctors of an American hospital emergency room—then reflect upon it in writing. (You may rent the film on [iTunes](#) for \$3.99.)

Task

This will be our shortest and simplest assignment. Simply do the following:

- Read one of our primary articles, or watch *The Waiting Room*, taking notes as you do so to help you collect your thoughts, then write a reflective response.

NOTE: If you choose to watch Peter Nicks’ film, you may reflect upon any aspect(s) of the film that impressed you; however, here are a few questions that might help jump-start your thinking:

- What does the patient experience at the hospital in the film say about the current state of American healthcare?
 - Are the situations and interactions depicted typical for a middle- or large-size American hospital, or is the hospital usually impacted? If you’ve worked in a hospital ER yourself, did the film seem true to what you have seen?
 - Which people did you identify with in the film and why?
 - Did the film remind you of any personal experiences in healthcare?
 - Is medical care a “right” or a “privilege?” Explain your thinking.
 - If you could control the logistics, finances, and decision-making at the hospital’s ER, what would you do differently (if anything)?
 - How should patients be prioritized at a hospital ER? Which patients should be seen first and why? Should any patients *not* be seen?
 - Based on what you saw in *The Waiting Room*, and based upon pending changes in the American healthcare system via the Affordable Healthcare Act, what do you believe will change (if anything) by the end of this decade?
- This is a pass-fail assignment. There is no length requirement for this assignment—you may write as much or as little as you wish. You do not need to cite sources, but you may if you wish.
 - Apply your best written prose conventions to this assignment. Check for spelling, grammar, syntax and usage before turning it in.

Assignment Due Date

See the course website schedule for due date.