

PHIL 181 - Existentialism: Writing Assignment

August 6, 2008

Your assignment is to write a short, 6–8 paper, providing an original contribution to the exposition, interpretation, and analysis of some important aspect of the philosophy of an important Existentialist. You will do so by researching the secondary literature on that figure and finding one relatively small but nonetheless important point to dispute. You can do this either by discussing a single interpreter’s claims about the primary source, or by looking at a debate between two or more interpreters. You should present the claim or claims that are made about how to understand some feature of the philosopher’s views, present the arguments in the secondary literature for that interpretation, and provide evidence from the primary source material (what was either read in class or additional material).

Requirements

- References and quotes at least one primary work by an author covered in this class (not including Becker or Barrett).
- Refers to at least one secondary source / commentary published in the last 30 years.
- Provides an *original* argument in opposition to some secondary source.
- Correctly follows standards for citation, references, style, and grammar.
- Does not plagiarize another’s work.
- **Due Date:** September 3rd
- **Length:** 1500–2000 words (~ 6–8 pages, not including references)
- Turned in as hard copy at the beginning of class.