

Philosophy 4310 — Paper Assignment #1

You should email your paper to me – joel.velasco@ttu.edu - by noon on Monday, March 27th.

The paper should be an argumentative essay of roughly 4-6 pages (2000-3000 words). It should be relevant to our class so far so that almost certainly means that it should be about indicative conditionals. But the exact nature of the paper might vary quite broadly. Here are some possible topics. Each of these questions could be a paper in itself or a paper could involve a few of these together.

- Is the indicative conditional really the material conditional?
- What are assertability conditions for indicative conditionals?
- What is exactly the right version of the Ramsey test?
- Does the Ramsey test actually get conditionals right?
- Do indicative conditionals have truth conditions? What are they?
- Which arguments involving conditionals are truly valid?
- What does validity mean if conditionals do not have truth-conditions?
- How can we make inferences from conditionals if they don't have truth conditions?
- Are conditional probabilities based on objective probability?
- When can conditionals be embedded into larger propositions?
- Are conditionals really zero-intolerant?

It should be obvious from your paper that it is a relevant topic, but if you have questions about whether a certain paper topic would be appropriate, please come and see me.