

**Philosophy 4330: Epistemology
Spring 2015, Third Paper Assignment**

Instructions: Write a short, argumentative paper on the topic of the analysis of knowledge. The paper should be approximately 500-1000 words. The paper must critically engage the assigned readings for weeks 5+6 of class (not necessarily all of them).

Due Date: You must submit your paper through Blackboard before the start of class on Wednesday, Feb 25th. Remember that these papers will be graded anonymously so do not write any identifying information (such as your name) in the paper.

Grading: There will be five short essay assignments throughout the semester. I will drop your lowest score. The remaining four essays will constitute 40% of your final grade.

References: All sources used in the writing of your paper must be properly referenced. This applies to material in the course readings, other published material, lecture notes from this class and other classes, material 'published' on the internet, and ideas contributed verbally by other students. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in a lowered grade or even an automatic F in the course; it may also lead to charges being brought before the university. If you have any questions about these issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Topics:

1. First, give an example of a Gettier case. What makes it a Gettier case? (i.e. what is the definition of 'A Gettier Case')? What is the case supposed to show?

Look at one of the proposed analyses of knowledge mentioned in Chapter 3 of our textbook or in one of the readings assigned in class. Explain the analysis and apply it to the case you already described. Do you think it gets this case right?

Do you think that there are other 'Gettier-like' cases that show that this analysis is also incorrect? Zagzebski would say yes. Are you hopeful that there could be an analysis of knowledge? Why or why not?