

***For your first paper, you must choose one of the philosophers discussed so far in class, and present that thinker's view of knowledge and how we attain it. In writing your paper, you should present and explain the key features that characterize the philosopher's theory, defining important terms and presenting the relevant reasons why one might advocate the theory. After explaining the philosopher's views in your own words, briefly present some reasons why one might modify or reject the positions inherent in the viewpoint. Close with your own personal reflections and reasons for why you like or dislike the views advocated by the philosopher you chose. Below is a checklist of requirements that should be included in your essay:***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Choose one philosopher and discuss his views on knowledge and how we attain it***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Present and discuss key terms and the arguments associated with the viewpoint***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Present some concerns that might be related to the theory (you may reference another philosopher's views here)***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Present your own reflections on the adequacy of the theory for epistemology***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Include at least two quotes/references from the articles studied in your textbook***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Use Times New Roman, 12pt font and 1 inch margins***

***\_\_\_\_\_ Develop your essay into at least 3 full pages of double-spaced text (around 1000 words)***

***The first writing assignment is due by end of day, Monday, February 24th.***

*Rene Descartes was a french philosopher, mathematician, and scientist, of french nationality. He spent twenty years of his life in the Dutch Republic. He is famous for making the connection between geometry and algebra, he believed in the power of innate ideas. He argued the theory of innate knowledge and that all humans were born with knowledge through the higher power of God. He is considered the father of modern philosophy. He was the first major figure in the philosophical movement known as rationalism, a method of understanding the world based on the use of reason as the means to attain Knowledge.he proposed a method of inquiry-based on four steps and rules. accept ideas as true and justified only if they are self-evident. Ideas need to be demonstrated, and Knowledge is possible if it is based on reason, not sensation. we get different ideas as results of retention. Some of these come to develop and make us more knowledgeable of the ideas and situations. He erased and deleted all accepted opinions and started fresh. He uses a method of doubt where anything that can be turned into question will be discarded. One of the first principles of Descartes's new philosophy was cogito which means I'm thinking therefore I exist.*

*One of the strongest and most important arguments, he presented.*

*was the cartesian dualism theory. This theory depends on the separation between the mind and the body. He demonstrated the existence of God and the distinction between the human soul and the body. Other philosophy like John Locke argued*

*Rene Descartes's opinions. Where Locke believed the ideas come through experience, where the mind is a blank sheet when it's born. And gained more knowledge through life experience and tasks. Our understanding of scientific methods can be traced back to the work of Rene Descartes in the important connection between geometry and algebra, and the existence of powerful God.*

*In today's Society people use Descartes work in discovering new ideas and develop already existing ones. His method used to understand the world based on the use of reason as the means to attain knowledge. and not to believe everything was presented without proof, I liked the way Descartes represented his theory in studying Nature and the validity of knowledge. As he truly wanted to know why something was labeled as correct and why something could be labeled as incorrect*

*One of my favorite documents that he demonstrated is the idea that he existed .and the separation between the souls and the body. Which I find very interesting and important thoughts.because our minds are what control our sentiment, drive, and passion. Our minds control and reform our identity.*

*One of his famous quotes. (Cogito, ergo sum) I'm thinking, therefore I exist. If you would be a real seeker after truth, it's necessary that at least once in your life, you doubt as far as possible. This will allow you to be connected with yourself and truly learn more about yourself that you did not know. Ultimately when you are connected with yourself you can truly go out and seek more knowledge and become a master of whatever craft you desire in your lifetime.*