General Guidelines

You are not being asked to assign any kind of score to these papers. On the other hand, you will receive a score on how thoughtfully you reviewed them.

You are required to answer a sequence of questions — please place these on a separate sheet and include question numbers so I can identify your answers. (Typed would be really, really helpful to me! If you hand-write answers, PLEASE do it legibly.) You should also hand in marked-up copies of the papers you are asked to review. Please write the word “REVIEWER” at the top of each paper you review and put your name after it!

All comments must be helpful and constructive. If something bothers you about anything, you are expected to suggest a way to make it better. (Don’t rewrite anything, but perhaps you can suggest a better word choice or an improved sentence structure or . . . .)

If you find a problem occurring repeatedly, you are not expected to locate every occurrence, but give an example if possible. It’s okay to put “labels” in the text of the paper (e.g., circled letters “A”, “B”, etc.) and to refer to these in your comments.

Finally, please feel free to praise those aspects of the paper that you think are good!
Due Weds., 2 Dec.  Peer Reviews

Author: _____________________________  Reviewer: _____________________________

Use a separate sheet if necessary.

1. Underline the sentence in the paper that, in your opinion, most clearly states the primary persuasive goal or thesis of the paper; mark this in the margin with the words “main thesis.”

   Comment on the clarity of the paper’s main thesis — is the author’s persuasive stance clear?

2. Comment on the organization of the paper — the flow of topics and ideas, transitions, beginning and concluding paragraphs. Try to locate specific examples in the paper that illustrate any problems you see. Offer any suggestions you have for improvement.
3. Is the paper fact-based and documented with references to bibliographic entries? If you find problems, indicate specific examples. Offer suggestions for improvement.

4. Is the paper written in a formal, scholarly style? If you find problems, indicate specific examples. Offer suggestions for improvement.

5. If you have any other constructive comments, please mention them here.