WRITING ASSIGNMENT #1: SHORT ESSAY

FIRST YEAR SEMINAR: HUMAN RIGHTS (FYSM101-23)

Assignment #1 (due August 26th) – Short Essay: An Essential Human Right

You have just participated in a group exercise in which you attempted to develop a universal declaration of human rights. Now your job is to compose a short (1 page minimum, 2 pages maximum) essay laying out why one particular right stands out to you as central and indispensible. Pick one “right” that you think is crucial to any Universal Declaration of Human Rights and explain why you think that this particular right is of paramount importance. Start with a clear thesis statement, lay out the case for your main argument, and be sure to address why other rights, though necessary or useful, might be less essential.

Your essay (and all future writing assignments for this class) should be typed, double-spaced on standard-sized paper (8.5" x 11") with 1" margins on all sides. Please use an easily readable 12 pt. font (Times New Roman, Garamond, etc.).

Remember that, as NOTE #2 in our syllabus suggests, assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Any missed assignment is subject to an automatic failing grade for the course (in other words, you cannot pass the class unless you do all of the work!). Late written assignments will be graded down up to one full letter grade for each day late. A paper handed in five minutes after class has begun is considered a full day late.