

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

21W.730-4 Writing on Contemporary Issues: Food for Thought:
Writing and Reading about the Cultures of Food
Fall 2008

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.

Homework #23

*Due in class Th 12/4****This is a change from the syllabus***Essay 4 (2-3 pages; 500-750 words)**

For Essay 4, you may write either a final reflection on the topic and readings of our semester, or a manifesto—a call to action.

If you choose to write a reflection, it should emphasize what has struck you the most, questions that have been raised for you, things you'd like to know more about, readings/writing that you've especially connected with or been impressed by—and what's different in your thinking about food now—whether in your own day to day choices or as a public health issue. In other words, the reflection should—in an artful way that aims to connect with readers—describe your intellectual journey this semester. Tone and approach are open, but you should make specific references to at least 1-2 readings.

If you choose to write a manifesto, make it clear who your target audience is, what you want them to do, and back it up with evidence. A manifesto may also be a strong statement of your own principles more than a call for others to take action (i.e., it's more "I believe..." with the call to action implicit for those who are inspired by your declaration.)

Have fun with this assignment; you've done a lot of writing—now let your voice soar.

WORKSHOPPING: We will workshop these essays in small groups in class 12/4. I won't comment on your draft—you'll revise using input from your group plus your own best understanding of what makes effective writing and what patterns of error you need to watch for in your own writing. You'll turn in both drafts with your portfolio.