

**Term Paper Topic**  
**Philosophy 156**  
**Fall, 2005**

**Due: Friday, December 9, in class.**

Restricting yourself at least three of the philosophers covered up to the midterm, explain how they have understood philosophical analysis and how they have used it. Use examples to illustrate their conceptions of analysis. Show what they have in common, and how they differ from one another. Consider whether they share some common “core” conception of analysis, whether their conceptions bear nothing more than a “family resemblance,” or whether they are instead quite different from one other. Evaluate the strengths and weakness of the approaches, stating which one is most plausible, and why.

**OR**

Center your paper on the views of one of the philosophers read in the class. The primary question is, what does the philosopher take philosophical analysis to be? State the goal of philosophical analysis and the way in which it is to be done. Also note the role of analysis in the broader conception of philosophy stated by the author (if this is stated). Give a detailed example of at least one analysis the philosopher has attempted. Then state potential shortcomings of the mode of analysis you have described. Finally, give some sense of the potential of this kind of analysis as use in philosophical investigation.

Length should be approximately 12 to 15 pages. Please use a line spacing of 3 lines per inch (double-spaced) and a left margin of 1½ inches, 1 inch elsewhere. Font should be 12-point. Please be sure the printing is clear.

You may bring in material outside the class readings. You might want to cite other writings by the author, interpretive commentaries on the author, or material critical of the author’s position. (And of course, as the case of Wittgenstein shows, the critic might be the author himself.)

Please let the instructor know by **November 12** which author(s) you have chosen. You are encouraged to seek guidance from the instructor as to how to pursue your project.