Mini Essays: Throughout the semester, you will be responsible for completing short

essays of approximately 500 words (about 2 pages double spaced). For each essay, you

will be given a fairly general prompt for you to base essay, with the intention that you

will find a more specific thread tailored to your own interests to fit within the theme of

the prompt. The prompts will be posted for each week on the corresponding module on

Blackboard. This is also where you will submit your essays. You will only be required to

submit five mini essays total for the semester, each due on a specified date found on the

syllabus.

In your essays, I would like you to use at least two different peer reviewed sources to

help substantiate your points. One of the sources should come from one of the assigned

readings, and I would like at least one other source to come from outside our course

texts. There are some great resources out there to help you find appropriate peer

reviewed source material. One place to find some good journal articles is JSTOR

(www.jstor.org). You should have free access to these articles through your SDSU

account. Of course, there is also the SDSU library, which contains plenty of books,

journal, etc. to help you with this task as well. I’d like you to avoid using websites, as

often these are not the most reliable and lack peer reviewed status. When providing

these sources, you must use the Chicago Manual of Style (CMS or Chicago Style). I will provide a useful guide on Blackboard for those of you who are unfamiliar with this

style of referencing.

Your essays will be graded on the following criteria:

a) evidence that the factual material called for in the question is presented and documented;

b) coherence of the essay in organization and structure;

c) ability to engage critically and analytically with the topic

d) evidence of creative thinking;

e) correct annotation of sources and presentation of bibliography;

f) correct spelling, punctuation and grammar.