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## 21W.777 The Science Essay

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**Homework #19***Due for class Thursday 4/23***Essay 5: The Longer Essay** 2500-3000 words (10-12 pages double-spaced)

Write an essay on any subject related to any field of science or technology—their history, their practice, or their social impact. Essay 5 will require a substantial amount of research. Your essay may or may not include autobiographical or biographical elements. It may follow the structure of any of the essays we have read or written. *Your essay may be exploratory or persuasive; either way, it must show your own thinking—your thinking about the material is just as important as the information you present.*

The increased scale of this project allows you to develop ideas with more richness and depth. It may present challenges in structure, both the sequence of ideas and the essay's overall shape, as well as challenges in sustaining your readers' interest. (You may want to look back at some of our readings for examples of possible approaches available to you in terms of structure and voice.) As you get more involved with your topic, particularly if it's technically complex, you may face challenges of clarity and keeping your writing concrete and lively. The successful essay will not necessarily be the one that tackles the most difficult topic, but the one that makes its topic come alive and makes the topic's significance clearly apparent to the non-specialist reader. Before you begin your Introduction, think about who you want to reach with this essay—your core audience—and why.

- Plan to use 3-4 subheads in this essay; outline or sketch out what these headings will be and what goes in each section before you begin writing.
- Sources: Refer to important sources within your text –“According to . . .” and so on. For the 1<sup>st</sup> draft, include other sources in parens. ; these can either be inserted in text or edited out in the final version. DO include a list of references, for my information, as you have been doing for the other essays.
- Workshopping: In brief, you will need only to print out your partner's essay before class. I will read that same copy of the essay.
- After I read your 1<sup>st</sup> draft, you'll do one substantial revision of Essay 5 and then polish it for your portfolio.