

### **Major Ideas of the Enlightenment and Its Legacy Research Paper**

*Philosophy* is defined as the “reasoning about the nature of things.” Philosophy can also refer to a system of values or beliefs by which a person lives. The Enlightenment was a movement in which philosophers developed new ideas about government and people’s rights. Our next assignment will allow you to focus on one particular philosopher and his/her impact on the world today.

#### **Due**

Draft - Tuesday, 21 September 2010

Final - Thursday, 23 September 2010

#### **Task**

Take one of the following quotes below as the basis of your research paper.

- ✓ What does it mean?
- ✓ Why is the author making this statement?
- ✓ How are the ideas of the author significant during this period in time?
- ✓ How has his/her ideas impacted society?
- ✓ How are the ideas of the author similar or different to the historical figure you presented during our Meeting of Minds Conference held in class?
- ✓ How are the author’s ideas played out today in the real world? Give an example.

◇ “If all men are born free, how is it that all women are born slaves?” Mary Astell

◇ “I do not agree with a word you say but will defend to the death your right to say it.” Voltaire

◇ “Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains.” Rousseau

◇ “Political liberty does not consist in an unlimited freedom.” Montesquieu

Once you have selected a quote, you will need to first look over your textbook as background information. You will need to research additional information from reputable/scholarly resources from the “SAS Pudong Library Resources” I provided you in class. Do not simply Google your information as often times the sources you find are not scholarly, for example, Wikipedia.

#### **General Expectations**

- Minimum five (5) paragraphs, which includes the introduction, body, and conclusion
- Approximately two to three pages in length
- Typed using a 12 point standard font, such as Times, Geneva, Ariel, Helvetica, etc.
- Text should be double spaced with 2.54 cm (1 inch) margins all around, single sided
- Number pages consecutively
- Provide citations in MLA format (refer to my Research Center on my website)
- Submit your paper with the pages in order
- Stay focused on the research topic of the paper
- Use paragraphs to separate each important point
- Indent the first line of each paragraph
- Present your points in logical order
- Avoid informal wording. Don't use jargon or slang terms