

Censor Instructions, MITRA4001

Autumn 2019

Question: To what extent is propaganda a legitimate activity for a government to engage in?

The assignment for this reading course asks students to write two brief essays (two to three pages in length) in response to a question set by the examiner. Each essay will address **only one** of the course readings. The student is free to choose which reading for the two essays they respond to.

The reading course is a chance for students to focus on a specialized topic related to one or several of the themes covered by the MITRA4000 course. Through reflection and in depth reading of secondary literature, students will be able to appreciate different perspectives and approaches taken on a subject.

Strong answers will include a clear statement of the student's position. An introduction that concedes there is support for different views is not a problem, and if skilfully stated may strengthen the student's argument. However, what is necessary for a good answer is that the student indicates which side is more compelling, even if their view is complex.

The student responses should be organized analytically rather than narratively. They should include clear paragraph-by-paragraph organization, with good topic sentences. It is essential that the examination draw on the required readings from the course and not on outside sources – this is not a research exercise. Most importantly, the student's reflections must be analytically sharp, and rooted in a demonstrable understanding of the issues posed by the question and raised in the reading.