

Statistics 301, Lectures 1, 2 and 6, Spring 2008
Honors Assignment

If you have signed up for Honors credit, then you must complete some additional work. Below is my suggestion for the additional work. If you have a request to do other work, please see me about it.

Read at least two of the eight essays listed below. For two of the essays that you read, write a paper, one to three pages, double-spaced, on a topic of your choice related to the essay. (Thus, you must write two papers.) I am particularly interested in papers that describe how an essay relates to your personal experiences, philosophy, interests, or education. These papers are due in lecture on Wednesday, May 7.

1. **The Flamingo's Smile** by Stephen Jay Gould.

- General: *Human Equality Is a Contingent Fact of History*, pages 185–198.
- General: *Singapore's Patrimony (and Matrimony)*, pages 319–332.
- General: *Sex, Drugs, Disasters, and the Extinction of Dinosaurs*, pages 417–426.
- Chapter 6 of text: *Of Wasps and WASPs*, pages 155–166.

2. **Bully for Brontosaurus** by Stephen Jay Gould.

- Chapter 1 of text: *The Chain of Reason versus the Chain of Thumbs*, pages 182–197.
- Chapter 5 of text: *In a Jumbled Drawer*, pages 309–324.
- Chapter 12 of text: *The Median Isn't the Message*, pages 473–478. Also at
http://www.cancerguide.org/median_not_msg.html
- Chapter 13 of text: *Of Kiwi Eggs and the Liberty Bell*, pages 109–123.

The Flamingo's Smile is available at the Biology (2 copies), Memorial, and Steenbock libraries. *Bully for Brontosaurus* is available at the Biology, College, Geology, and Memorial libraries. Both books are available at the Madison Public Library. Either book may be purchased at any number of popular book stores.