

Statistics 301; Professor Wardrop; Spring 2009
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 Tuesday, May 5.

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.