Reaction paper

The Keeney Peace Lecture will take place in Founders Hall at 7 PM on Thursday, February 19. The speaker is Juan Williams; the title is “This Far by Faith: The History and Contributions of the African American Church.” Afterwards Capstone students will adjourn to Stutzman Lecture Hall for a discussion led by Daniel Hughes.

In a double-spaced essay of no more than two pages, using a standard 10- to 12-point font, discuss one or more of your reactions to Juan Williams’ Keeney Peace Lecture and/or the subsequent discussion period. This may be an analytical essay, or a polemical one, or simply an exploration of your feelings.

However, you are expected to relate the things you are discussing to the course readings. You are especially encouraged to draw on the course readings for Monday, February 16, and Wednesday, February 18.

Because this is intended to be a more personal essay, you will not be graded on the quality of any arguments you present. However, you will be graded on spelling, grammar and style. You may use a colloquial style, even slang, but be careful that you make your meaning clear for the benefit of the reader!

If you want guidance in the use of colloquial language and slang, you might think back to Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn—the entire novel was written in dialects of various sorts, but Twain was careful that either footnotes or context made the meaning clear to readers of Standard English.

The legal boilerplate

This essay will count for at least 10% of your participation grade, and is due by E-mail to Dan Berger not later than 8:30 AM on Monday, February 23. Students who have legitimate reasons for absence from the Keeney Peace Lecture and discussion will be given an alternate assignment.

Alternate assignment

The “alternate assignment” will consist of listening to or viewing the recordings and writing a reaction paper as above. The due date for the alternate assignment will be Saturday, February 28 at 8:30 AM. We expect the recordings to be available in Musselman Library by Monday evening, February 23.

If for some reason the planned recordings do not come off, students with legitimate reasons for missing the lecture and discussion will be contacted by E-mail with another assignment.