

Philosophy 190P

Response/Analysis Paper 7

Instructions

Note: this assignment, due Dec. 4, is for students in Group IV (Rowe, Spielman, Conrad) *only*.

Please respond to the following question in approximately two pages (double spaced). (Needless to say this should be your own original work.)

In §49 of the *Ideas*, p. 110, Husserl discusses a possibility which he calls the “annihilation of the world,” in which my experiences would no longer have the coherence necessary to make them experiences *of* one self-consistent reality. Obviously, in that case, the contents of my consciousness would be different than they now are (Husserl says they would be “modified”): whereas they are now orderly, coherent, characterized by a background “general positing” of natural reality, etc., they would then be chaotic and lack any long term positing of transcendent objects. Why *doesn't* this show, according to Husserl, that consciousness is *dependent* on the world? Why does it not contradict what he says in §88 (pp. 215–16): that after the “bracketing” or “exclusion” of the entire world (so that *only* consciousness is left as a “residuum”), “everything, so to speak, remains as of old”?