Essays are due Thursday, 5/10, at the end of lecture. The essay should be a minimum of 4 full pages in length (no more than 5) in the Humanities format, and a counterargument is required. Reminder: Do not use outside sources in a Humanities essay. The argument should be your own, and the only material used should be the assigned readings.

Write an essay on one of the following prompts:

1. Both the New Testament and The Confessions describe in detail the paths or personal journeys that ultimately lead Paul and Augustine to convert to Christianity. Both men had certain inward thoughts and feelings, both took actions and had experiences, and, also, certain facts about their backgrounds moved them in the end to accept the Christian faith. How did the paths that brought them to accept Christianity affect their interpretations of the faith?

In crafting your response, you may, for example, consider how their personal experiences affected their interpretation of the process of conversion, the role of sin in the life of a Christian, or how Christians should interact with non-Christians.

2. Some scholars have insisted that, “Paul derived his inspiration from the life and teachings of Jesus, but what Paul teaches in his letters is so far from Jesus’ teaching in the gospels as to constitute an entirely different religion.” Is Paul’s message consistent or inconsistent with the teachings of Jesus as represented in the Gospels? For example, did Jesus and Paul preach the same message about obedience to the Mosaic law, and did they have the same understanding of the Messiah? Write an essay that compares the teachings of Jesus (as portrayed by Mark or John) and Paul (using evidence from the Letter to the Galatians or the First Letter to the Corinthians). You must focus on at least two aspects of Paul’s and Jesus’ teachings.

When writing your essay, refer to the Humanities Writing Handbook, in particular the sections “Checking your arguments” and “Sentences.”

Submit a paper copy of your essay to your TA in a plain manila folder with your name on it. Include all your previous Humanities papers in the folder. Before submitting a paper copy at lecture, you must submit an electronic copy to www.turnitin.com for textual similarity review. Information about that will be distributed and discussed in section by your TA. We remind you that if you use other people’s words or ideas as if they were your own you are committing plagiarism, which at UCSD is severely punished. It is also very easy to discover.

Late Policy: There will be a 1/3 grade penalty for each day an essay is late.

Handouts are available in the Humanities Writing Handbook and online at http://revelle.ucsd.edu/humanities/resources/writing-resources.html