This essay will integrate two distinct “modes” or forms of writing: the case study which calls for research and critical analysis and reflective writing.

You have worked with these kinds of writing separately over the course of this semester. In Paper 4, you will integrate the modes, using them together in the paper to make an argument about how encountering an “other” affects the sense of self and how we, as human beings, should respond ethically to that experience.

Your essay will have two different kinds of evidence: relevant information drawn from a selected current event/issue in which a group of people has been depicted as “other” in the media, and your own reflections on how the individual self should respond ethically to such a situation.

To identify a current event to work with in the essay, you should visit reliable media sites such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, The San Francisco Chronicle, The Chicago Tribune, The Guardian (United Kingdom), and/or The Independent (United Kingdom).

Once you have identified the current event you’ll be focusing on in your case study, you may also, if you wish, look at local reporting on it in The Telegraph, or even The Cluster.

Keep in mind that the thesis must make an explicit claim about how encountering an “other” affects the sense of self and how we should respond ethically to that experience.

The case study of that “othered” group should include both factual information and your analysis of it.

Your reflection on that information may appear throughout the essay, either incorporated into body paragraphs alongside the case study’s analysis or in separate paragraphs.

Whichever organization strategy you choose, your Conclusion must offer a more extended reflection that draws the elements of your argument together. The reflection in the Conclusion must also explicitly discuss the ethical response you have identified and explain why you consider it to be appropriate in this situation.

On the back of these guidelines, you will find a list of current events/issues that would work well for your case study, along with links to appropriate source material you may use. If you wish, you may identify a current event/issue you would like to work with for this assignment on your own. Please note: if you do so, you MUST send the professor an email detailing that selection and explaining why you think it is appropriate for this assignment. No unapproved topics will be permitted. Failure to have a topic you come up with on your own approved will result in an automatic 10 point deduction in the final grade for the paper.

The finished essay should be a minimum of 4 – 6 pages in length and formatted in CMS Style (Chicago Manual of Style – see Little Bear Handbook, pages 192-226). We will go over the use of CMS in class prior to the final due date for the paper.
A few examples of the kinds of current events/issues that would work well with this assignment:

*The conflict in Syria and the resulting refugee crisis

http://syrianrefugees.eu/

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/shocking-image-of-drowned-syrian-boy-shows-tragic-plight-of-refugees


*The #Black Lives Matter movement


*Immigration in the United States


*The Standing Rock Pipeline Protests


*The Israeli-Palestinian conflict

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/israel-hummus-cafe-discount-arabs-jews_56263e9be4b02f6a900dc495?utm_hp_ref=israeli-palestinian-conflict

*Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp:

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/01/shaker-aamer-guantanamo-post-traumatic-stress-disorder

*Fake News and the US Election
