

Paper Assignment 2

Phil 12: Scientific Reasoning

Write a short paper (1-2 pages, double-spaced, typed) on the question below. The paper is worth up to 10 points. For each day your paper is late, one point will be deducted from your point total (although no negative points will be given). The papers must be submitted through <http://www.turnitin.com> by **2 September 2013**. If you have any problems with using turnitin.com, you can contact the Instructional Web Development Center of Academic Computing Services at 858-822-3315 or iwdc@ucsd.edu.

In order to be fully prepared for this assignment, you may have to read a bit ahead on the modules (particularly the section on testing causal claims experimentally). Present your answers entirely in your own words—do not quote material either from the website or the lecture powerpoints. Cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Academic Integrity Coordinator. There is no need to quote anyone else, explain everything in your own words. Clarity, precision, and accuracy are all essential for a good paper.

Question

Almost one hundred UCSD students have developed a set of symptoms that includes nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting, and diarrhea. There do not seem to be any new cases, but you are still concerned to identify the cause. One factor that many people suspect is the improper food storage in one of the campus restaurants. Propose a study for testing this hypothesis and explain why it would be the best procedure to follow. Also explain the limitations of your proposed study.