

Point Paper: Epicurean and Stoic Responses to Suffering
English 260: Imagining Urban Ecologies: Rome, London, Los Angeles
Interim 2014

Your point paper is an **edited and ordered first response** to our reading for Friday, Jan. 10, due at the beginning of class. You should respond with a clear thesis to the question, “What is the best ethical response to human suffering?” by defending either a Stoic or an Epicurean point of view.

In reading your paper, I am interested in **your fresh response** to the reading, "uncontaminated" by lecture or class discussion on that work. These papers allow me to see **how you think as well as what you think**; they allow you to connect directly with the reading and get practice in organizing an argument.

Be clear, be interesting, be succinct (400 to 500 words). State your thesis clearly in the first paragraph. Use your paper to develop a focused thesis thoroughly; avoid hopping from one impression to another. Refer to details and quotations in the text and cite them parenthetically.