**ESSAY 3: Critical Response to an Argument: Bill Maher’s *Religulous* (2008)**

Write a 3-4 page essay in which you analyze and evaluate Bill Maher’s argument in the film *Religulous*. You should also provide your own *developed* opinion about the issue of controversy in this film.

Some things to consider:

1. How is Maher’s argument structured? *Briefly* describe and evaluate the way Maher’s argument is put together. You should clearly state his conclusion/thesis and the central premises of his position, along with his key supporting evidence.
2. Does the argument contain any fallacies? If so, discuss which ones, supported by specific references to the film.
3. Were any parts of Maher’s argument particularly convincing or persuasive? If so, refer to them specifically. Were any parts particularly ineffective or even offensive? Again…be as specific as you can!
4. Lastly, do you agree with Maher’s position on this issue? If so, why? If not, why not? Clearly state your own view on the issue, supporting your position with specific reasons (premises) and any examples from your own experience, research, your observation of others, or any of your reading/viewing, including the film *Religulous* itself.

(About half your paper should analyze/evaluate Maher’s argument; the other half should explore your personal views on this issue.)

**Due: 12/4/19**

**(100 pts)**