Second Paper Assignment

Write a paper that addresses one of the two following topics.

1. Both Durkheim and Weber are interested in the relationship between religion and society. But their reasons for being interested in this relationship differ, as do their understandings of the relationship itself. In your paper, describe what seems to be the most significant difference between these two authors on this topic. Describe their respective positions in some detail, crafting your exposition in ways that generate a substantive conversation between their texts. Finally, say what you think accounts for the difference you have described.

2. Both Durkheim and Eliade consider the distinction between the sacred and the profane to be central to religion. But their writings treat this relationship differently. In your paper, describe what seems to you to be the most significant difference between these two authors on this topic. Describe their respective positions in some detail, crafting your exposition in ways that generate a substantive conversation between their texts. Finally, say what you think accounts for the difference you have described.

Requirements and recommendations:

Your paper should be 4-5 pages in length, double-spaced. Use 1” margins and a 12-point font. Number your pages.

You will need to be as concise as possible. Do not bother with an introduction; jump right into exposition in the first paragraph of your paper. Do not pad your paper with unnecessary prose.

Do not simply summarize the contents of our texts. Speak only about such matters as are clearly relevant to the questions detailed in the assignment.

Make explicit reference to our assigned texts in your exposition. Whether you quote our authors directly or paraphrase their words, you need to provide a textual reference for each significant claim you make about their positions.

Make sure your writing is grammatically and syntactically correct. Make use of the Writing Center if you need help doing so.

Check your paper over carefully for spelling and typographical errors before turning it in.

Do not submit a first draft of your paper as a final draft.

Make sure your paper addresses the assigned questions.

Papers are to be turned in to my office, 208 Chapin Hall (under the door if I am not in). Students from the Other Four Colleges may submit their papers by email.

Due date: Friday, March 11, 4:00 PM