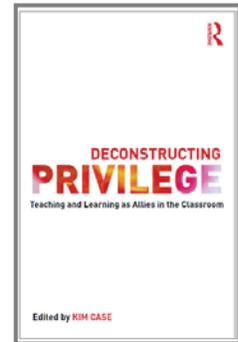
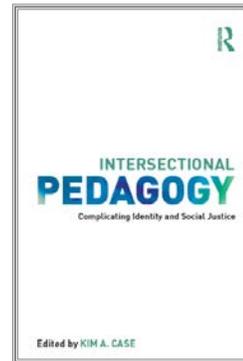




Resource by Kim A. Case, Ph.D.  
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For more information on intersectional pedagogy, see my books to the right (Case, 2013, 2017).

The resource below is connected to chapter 5 & 7 of *Intersectional Pedagogy* which provide details about using this project.



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## Privilege Reflections Paper

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The full instructions sheet with questions will be available in Blackboard. For this paper, you must choose to write about a form of privilege where you are a member of the dominant group. For example, a white lesbian student would not write about male or heterosexual privilege, but she could write about white privilege. If there is anyone who is in the subordinate group for all 3, you may choose to write about another form of privilege, and I can help you identify a topic if needed. If you are unclear about your group membership, please see me.

The essential goal of your paper is to think about how this form of privilege affects your life as a dominant group member. People have a much easier time recognizing prejudice and individual and institutional discrimination when we are part of the group that is the target of such oppression. However, we tend to have more difficulty when we experience the advantages and benefits of dominant group membership. These advantages and privileges tend to be invisible to us and difficult to pinpoint. This paper will be your space for exercising your privilege-recognition muscles. Your paper should reflect your ability to think critically about prejudice and privilege and successfully apply the concepts to real life and the course readings.

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### White Privilege Paper

Each of the following questions should be answered fully in your paper:

- 1) 10 points: What is white privilege? How is white privilege related to systematic/institutional racism, power, and racial discrimination? In other words, describe how these various parts work together & support each other.
- 2) 25 points: Identify **5 specific** examples of white privilege from **your life** and describe them.

This may be something you have experienced or something you saw a friend experience, but they should be real examples from your life. And you should be describing white privilege rather than instances of discrimination. If you use a time when you witnessed discrimination against the subordinate group, you must clearly be able to relate it to privilege.

3) 15 points: Give an example (not already used above) of white privilege in **at least 3** of the following social institutions:

education; the workforce/corporate world; government; media; language; religion

Your answer should illustrate your recognition of how these institutions perpetuate privilege.

4) 10 points: How would your life be different if your race privilege were taken away?

Really think about this before you write. What if you woke up tomorrow and discovered everything was reversed and people of color had all of the power and privilege?

5) 10 points: How does white privilege affect, alter, shape, change you psychologically?

How does it shape how you view race, people of color, white people, and your perceptions of discrimination (such as when a person of color says they have been discriminated against, for example)? Be sure to address each of the categories in the previous sentence for full credit. This answer is where you get to show that you understand the research discoveries in this area. Notice this question does not ask you if white privilege has shaped your psychology. Writing about how it does not affect you will earn you no points.

6) 10 points: How does white privilege impact, influence, alter, affect your interactions with white people versus people of color?

Think about your own beliefs, attitudes, stereotypes, and behaviors as a dominant group member when interacting with members of your in-group versus members of your out-group. What is the impact? Think about how whites' and people of color's views of you might impact the interaction. Be sure to address both the in-group and the out-group equally in your answer for full credit. Notice this question does not ask you if white privilege has an impact on interactions. Writing about how it does not affect your interactions will earn you no points.

7) 10 points: What specific actions can you take within your own sphere of influence to challenge or deconstruct white privilege?

Spheres of influence include areas where you have any power or influence- self, family, friends, acquaintances, co-workers, community members, etc.

8) 10 points: How does this form of privilege connect to intersectional theory? How does intersectionality relate to the ways that privilege affects your lived experiences, psychology, and interactions with others?

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## Male Privilege Paper

Each of the following questions should be answered fully in your paper. Please type the main question then type your answer:

1) 10 points: What is male privilege? How is male privilege related to systematic/institutional sexism, power, and sex discrimination? In other words, describe how these various parts work together & support each other.

2) 25 points: Identify **5 specific** examples of male privilege from **your life** and describe them.

This may be something you have experienced or something you saw a friend experience, but they should be real examples from your life. And you should be describing male privilege rather than instances of discrimination. If you use a time when you witnessed discrimination against the subordinate group, you must clearly be able to relate it to privilege.

3) 15 points: Give an example (not already used above) of male privilege in **at least 3** of the following social institutions:

education; the workforce/corporate world; government; media; language; religion

Your answer should illustrate your recognition of how these institutions perpetuate privilege.

4) 10 points: How would your life be different if your male privilege were taken away?

Really think about this before you write. What if you woke up tomorrow and discovered everything was reversed and women had all of the power and privilege?

5) 10 points: How does male privilege affect, alter, shape, change you psychologically?

How does it shape how you view men, women, gender, and your perceptions of discrimination (such as when a woman says they have been discriminated against, for example)? Be sure to address each of the categories in the previous sentence for full credit. This answer is where you get to show that you understand the research discoveries in this area. Notice this question does not ask you if male privilege has shaped your psychology. Writing about how it does not affect you will earn you no points.

6) 10 points: How does male privilege impact, influence, alter, affect your interactions with men versus women?

Think about your own beliefs, attitudes, stereotypes, and behaviors as a dominant group member when interacting with members of your in-group versus members of your out-group. What is the impact? Think about how men's and women's views of you might impact the interaction. Be sure to address both the in-group and the out-group equally in your answer for full credit. Notice this question does not ask you if male privilege has an impact on interactions. Writing about how it does not affect your interactions will earn you no points.

7) 10 points: What specific actions can you take within your own sphere of influence to challenge or deconstruct male privilege? Spheres of influence include areas where you have any power or influence- self, family, friends, acquaintances, co-workers, community members, etc.

8) 10 points: How does this form of privilege connect to intersectional theory? How does intersectionality relate to the ways that privilege affects your lived experiences, psychology, and interactions with others?

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## Heterosexual Privilege Paper

Each of the following questions should be answered fully in your paper. Please type the main question then type your answer:

1) 10 points: What is heterosexual privilege? How is heterosexual privilege related to systematic/institutional heterosexism, power, and discrimination against gays and lesbians?

In other words, describe how these various parts work together & support each other.

2) 25 points: Identify **5 specific** examples of heterosexual privilege from **your life** and describe them.

This may be something you have experienced or something you saw a friend experience, but they should be real examples from your life. And you should be describing heterosexual privilege rather than instances of discrimination. If you use a time when you witnessed discrimination against the subordinate group, you must clearly be able to relate it to privilege.

3) 15 points: Give an example (not already used above) of heterosexual privilege in **at least 3** of the following social institutions:

education; the workforce/corporate world; government; media; language; religion

Your answer should illustrate your recognition of how these institutions perpetuate privilege.

4) 10 points: How would your life be different if your heterosexual privilege were taken away? Really think about this before you write. What if you woke up tomorrow and discovered everything was reversed and lesbians and gay men had all of the power and privilege?

5) 10 points: How does heterosexual privilege affect, alter, shape, change you psychologically?

How does it shape how you view heterosexuals, lesbian and gay people, sexual orientation, and your perceptions of discrimination (such as when a gay man says he has been discriminated against, for example)? Be sure to address each of the categories in the previous sentence for full credit. This answer is where you get to show that you understand the research discoveries in this area. Notice this question does not ask you

if heterosexual privilege has shaped your psychology. Writing about how it does not affect you will earn you no points.

6) 10 points: How does heterosexual privilege impact, influence, alter, affect your interactions with heterosexuals versus lesbians and gay men?

Think about your own beliefs, attitudes, stereotypes, and behaviors as a dominant group member when interacting with members of your in-group versus members of your out-group. What is the impact? Think about how heterosexuals' and LGBT views of you might impact the interaction. Be sure to address both the in-group and the out-group equally in your answer for full credit. Notice this question does not ask you if heterosexual privilege has an impact on interactions. Writing about how it does not affect your interactions will earn you no points.

7) 10 points: What specific actions can you take within your own sphere of influence to challenge or deconstruct heterosexual privilege? Spheres of influence include areas where you have any power or influence- self, family, friends, acquaintances, co-workers, community members, etc.

8) 10 points: How does this form of privilege connect to intersectional theory? How does intersectionality relate to the ways that privilege affects your lived experiences, psychology, and interactions with others?

## PRIVILEGE PAPER TIPS

- Yes, you must write on a form of privilege that you actually have yourself. If you are white, you may write on white privilege, if you are male you may write on male privilege, if you are heterosexual, you may write about heterosexual privilege. If you have more than 1 form of privilege, you will have a choice to make. If there is anyone who does not fit into any of these 3 dominant groups, we can work to identify one form of privilege for your paper.
- Please be careful not to fall into the temptation of writing about your own discrimination in the paper. In the past, for example, there have been white women students who were supposed to be writing about white privilege. As I got into reading the paper, I would find them using examples of sexism. It is tempting for us to begin to write/talk about oppression when we are in the subordinate group. One of the main reasons I assign this paper, is to provide each of you the opportunity to really reflect and think critically about how a system of oppression has given you advantages that are most often invisible to you. This is your chance to make them visible. So just remember to stay focused.
- This paper will be written on your own. In other words, there will be no class time devoted to doing research for the paper. This paper should not be written in collaboration with anyone else.
- Please do not use references beyond that of the course text, readings, and module videos and essays provided in the course. You will not be going to find new journals articles or additional references. You are only required to do the thinking and writing about privilege in your own life and connect that with materials from the course.
- Please pay attention to all of the paper formatting I have listed in the paper assignment. I give specific guidelines about font size and type and margins. I expect all of that to be followed in detail. Please note you will need a title page with your information.
  - Approximate length = 9-10 pages
  - Times New Roman 12 point font
  - 1 inch margins, single space everything
  - Microsoft Word documents only. Do not upload a pdf or another other format.
- Yes, it's true. Type the question, then type your answer in paragraph form. Remember that longer answers (such as 5 examples from your life) should be more than one paragraph. I give detailed explanations of what I am looking for in the questions, so here are the actual questions I expect to see typed in the paper. Of course if you write about male or heterosexual privilege, the wording will be different. Note that these questions are shortened versions. You are responsible for answering all parts of the question in the instructions above.
  - What is white privilege? How is white privilege related to systematic/institutional racism, power, and racial discrimination?
  - Identify **5 specific** examples of white privilege from **your life** and describe them.
  - Give an example (not already used above) of white privilege in **at least 3** of the following social institutions: education; the workforce/corporate world; government; media; language; religion
  - How would your life be different if your race privilege were taken away?
  - How does white privilege affect, alter, shape, change you psychologically? How does it shape how you view race, people of color, white people, and your perceptions of discrimination?
  - How does white privilege impact, influence, alter, affect your interactions with white people versus people of color?
  - What specific actions can you take within your own sphere of influence to challenge or deconstruct white privilege?
  - How does this form of privilege connect to intersectional theory?