Due: throughout the semester; I will be checking them every weekend
Worth: 12% of your final grade

Expectations:

Spend some time daily reading The New York Times throughout the semester. While in class we will often discuss major news stories across topics, the R/W log is meant to be the place you explore your own area of interest. We will touch on this occasionally in class as well.

In the early days, your logs may explore a number of different subjects that you’re intrigued by, and may be pretty broad. As the semester goes on, however, you should be narrowing your focus and making connections between what you’re reading that week and earlier stories.

The log entries can cover a mix of story types: front page stories, human interest stories, editorials, etc.

Details:

By class time on Monday 8/29, you should create a Google Doc that you share with me (thebb@depauw.edu) and allow me editing privileges (so that I can add comments to the log and ask you questions). The google doc should be titled with your name first, then “NYT Reading Log” – so, for example:

John Smith: NYT Reading Log

I expect you to write a minimum of 3 log posts a week, which should add up to at least 5 decent paragraphs total. Some weeks you may do more, and other weeks might be a bit shorter. I won’t deduct points for one or two shorter weeks if it’s all balanced out. But if you’re consistently not giving this attention, it will affect your grade.

Each entry should be dated at the top, and you should identify the title/author of the story/stories you’re discussing in the entry.

Where this is going:

At the end of the semester, this will have lead you to your final paper and presentation. That project will either be along the lines of “How the NYT reports on AIDS research,” or you will be able to form a more traditional research question that’s arisen for you through your NYT reading – so, maybe “How are South American countries researching AIDS differently than Asian countries?”