

## Fallacy Assignment

Please bring in **THREE** examples of fallacies for Monday, 9/8. They can be from articles (opinion pieces on blogs or news websites is a good place to look), books, podcasts, radio shows, talk shows, TV shows, tweets, etc. **Advertisements** are also a particularly rich resource for fallacious reasoning.

The three different fallacies can occur in the same source – in the same article or talk show, for example. However, they each need to be a different argument. If a pundit uses an appeal to emotion and a false stereotype in the same statement, that only counts as one example. However, if they later employ a hasty generalization, and then again later erect a straw man, then you have fulfilled the requirement. You may bring in fallacies that we haven't discussed in class if you are prepared to tell us how the fallacy works. (For various "appeals to..." this may be pretty simple.)

Please turn in the fallacies in the following way:

1. For **print** sources: print out and attach the article/other printed source OR type/copy-paste the general section in which the fallacy occurs to your assignment sheet (make sure to give some extra text around the fallacy for context). Identify **where** the fallacy is, **what** the fallacy is, and **why** you think it is that specific fallacy.
2. For audio or **audiovisual** sources: please provide a link to a youtube video/online clip on your assignment sheet, and clearly mark **when** the fallacy occurs, **what** it is, and **why** you think it is that fallacy. Please provide an explanatory sentence or two for these links describing the fallacy. If there is no online clip, but it's a *really* great example you ran across from your weekend binge of *House of Cards*, then give me the movie title, episode number, etc. and describe the fallacy in a few sentences (set up the context and what the character said). Please have no more than two of these; I want everyone to bring in at least one example that we can read or watch together.

Example:

1. Abbott and Costello, comedy sketch "Who's on First?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kTcRRaXV-fg>

Time: 1:27 – 2:20

Fallacy: Ambiguity

Abbott says "Who's on first," referring to the *name* of the fictional baseball player. Costello replies, saying "Yes, that's what I want to know, who's on first?" asking for the name of the player is on base. This is an example of ambiguity because the word "who" in this context is equivocal; that is, it is being used in two different ways – as the name of the baseball player and the interrogative.