

**FIYS106 Grading Sheet**  
**Ethical Brain**

**Student name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_/50

**The Assignment:** In The Ethical Brain, Michael Gazzaniga advocates the hypothesis that human beings should use neuroethics (a brain-based philosophy of life) to deal with social issues of disease, normality, mortality, lifestyle, and the philosophy of living. Do you agree (fully or partially) or disagree with statement. Your task is to write a 1000-word essay that articulates your position on the extent to which neuroethics should guide society. Which specific issues discussed in the book would you ascribe to or not as within the realm of neuroethics? You might agree on all or none of the issues. Support your position(s) with well-thought arguments, using the book as a major source of evidence, but also allowing for your personal beliefs, and other published sources as you see fit.

**Grading Rubric:**

**CONTENT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **25 points**

**1. Introduction & Thesis sentence**

Have you made a declaration of an argument, providing sufficient background of the larger topic of the book & acknowledged opposing viewpoints to your own? What is your thesis statement? Does it make a strong claim that will support and provide structure for your argument?

**2. Quality of Argument: The use of evidence**

This is the meat and bulk of your paper. Have you focused on three major issues to argue your thesis statement? Why did you specifically choose these topics and have you explained the basic background each of these issues? How is the brain actually linked to each issue? What is the role of neuroethics, according to Gazzaniga, in guiding society on this issue? How does your main point (evidence) about each issue support your thesis? If it is different from Gazzaniga's viewpoint, why is he wrong? Have you organized this section into several paragraphs that each has a specific topic and argues one point? Are all the paragraphs connected to your central thesis point, logically organized, and do they transition well from one to the other?

**3. Conclusion**

How has your argument shed new light on the background information you provided in the introduction? What is your contribution to the argument? Use key terms, anecdotes or quotations to summarize your main idea. Acknowledge your opponent again, if only to emphasize you've beaten the other positions.

**WRITING FORM:** \_\_\_\_\_ **15 points**

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Each paragraph is organized and clear   | A | B | C | D |
| 2. Writes clear, appropriate transition phrases and/or statements; active voice                    | A | B | C | D |
| 3. Avoids run-on sentences and sentence fragments  | A | B | C | D |
| 4. Uses punctuation correctly, including end punctuation, commas, apostrophes, and quotation marks | A | B | C | D |
| 5. Spells and capitalizes all words correctly  | A | B | C | D |

**PROCESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **10 points**

At the end of your review, write an additional paragraph describing the approach you took to writing this paper from start to finish, and how you involved your writing tutors.

*Modified from: [http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/ac\\_paper/what.shtml](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/ac_paper/what.shtml)*