As you recall, your individual term project is to research an issue about which you are initially undecided. Your final assignment for the course will be an argument in which you take a stand on this issue. For this assignment, you are to write an outline of your approach to the paper not an outline of the final paper (in other words, subsections will be topical, as opposed to the subheadings of your paper, which are likely to be very uncertain right now). Deal explicitly with this in separate clearly marked sections:

1) **Your position:** Restate the final wording of the issue/question you are investigating, but now include your expected position on your approved question (**PRO or CON**). You should now have a good idea of what your approach to your argument will be, and what likely counterarguments are.

2) **Description of your approach.** What are the sub-issues that you need to explore or the positions/facts that you need to describe in detail? Focus on the ethical dilemmas and your potential position once you have enough information. For example, if you are writing about robotic toys with affect and their effect on children, you may need to discuss facts regarding how they have changed, what the market penetration has been or is projected to be and perhaps how the toy market itself has changed over the last decade (e.g., the toy market has changed dramatically since the mid-1980s: three year olds demand toys by name and the once-lucrative eight-year old toy market has all but vanished). What concerns have been raised in the literature? What have you discovered so far about the topic? How has the scope of your project changed based on what you have found (if at all)? What counterarguments are likely against your position? What are you realizing you don't know enough about that you will have to go and research? Please pay attention to likely obstacles and difficulties. **But do not make your paper a review of the state-of-the-art in the robotics area you are concerned with – you need to focus on the ethical issues.** Only include those facts that support your argument pro or con.

3) **Resources.** Describe in detail the resources that you are using or plan to use. Cite specific references where available. A minimum of 5 is required, more are welcome. These may include documents, individuals (if you are using interviews or in-depth advice from other faculty), organization websites, laws, regulations and policies, as well as published papers and books. For some of your resources, you may have limited details yet, so there is no need to give a formal bibliography at this stage (although you could provide a partial one if you prefer); however, you should be able to frame your requirements. For example: "I really need to find a book about the European perspective on left-pawed mice." or "Is there someone in Chemical Engineering who can help me evaluate the dangers of robotic paint mixers in hardware stores?". Make sure it is clear that you made an effort to compile a reasonable set of resources for use in your final paper.

I have a hard time believing you can do this in significantly less than about a page, but I'd like you to certainly do it in less than two.

**Turning this in:** Please submit this assignment via Canvas.

**Grading & Warning:** As with term paper assignment #1, this assignment is a part of your term project. This will contribute **15 percent of the term project grade.** You will be marked down for poor grammar, readability and/or spelling (because it is a required outcome of the course and painful to have to read that sort of thing) as well as for turning in something half-done and/or lame (especially with respect to resources or your stating your position clearly on your previously submitted question). Try to avoid doing any of that. **Proofread before submitting!**