**WEEK 3: WRITING AND DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENT**

AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION

The agricultural revolution is the second of the three great revolutions we will cover in this class. The first—the cognitive revolution—we’ve already discussed. The third—the Scientific Revolution—we’ll get to at the very end of this course. This week, we’re looking at the second, the Agricultural Revolution, and its connection to human settlement.

Traditionally, archaeologists have theorized that the domestication of crops and animals went hand-in-hand with permanent settlements about 10,000 to 12,000 years ago in a region known as the Fertile Crescent, in today’s Middle East. As the thinking goes, people needed a steady food supply in order to settle permanently in one place. And from permanent settlement came more sophisticated and complex cultures, and ultimately civilization.

But in the article for this week—"Seeds of Civilization”—the author cites archaeologists working at two sites in modern-day Turkey-- Catalhoyuk and Gobekli Tepe (not the original names of the settlements; they are named after nearby modern-day villages), with a contrary view of agriculture and permanent human settlement. What is that contrary argument? What do those scholars say is the reason behind these settlements, if not agriculture? Please identify the causes they cite and provide a bit of the proof these scholars offer to back up their theory.

**Please submit a 100-200 word answer via Blackboard by the beginning of class on Tuesday, February 9.**

Be prepared to discuss your answer in class.