**Template for Discourse Community Report**

**A couple of notes:**

1. Use bold subheads to separate the three sections of the report.
2. Be sure to include things you got from the person/people you talked to. Quote them, but don’t worry about MLA etc.
3. Remember: it must be at least 1000 words total.

**Introduction:** Tell us about the DC you chose and why it matters to you.

* Explain your DC, why you chose it. *If you’re a member,* how that happened, how long you have been a member, and what it’s like to be a member. *If you’re not,* why you chose to look at it.
* Who you interviewed for this report: who they are, what their “role” is in the DC, how long you’ve known them, etc.
* The community’s shared beliefs. How people join (if that’s pertinent). Who might get excluded because of those ‘rules.’
* Whether it has specific goals or reason for existence. This could get tricky if it’s a family or culture, which is why you should choose a smaller DC within that primary DC – it will be a lot easier.
* Some issues are important to the DC, what larger concerns the DC has about how our world is functioning.

**How Language is Used in the Discourse Community:** Tell about how language is used in the DC.

* What specialized language or words or jargon it uses. (There’s always something!)
* How really common words might be used differently by the members of this DC.
* How the members “communicate” with each other. This can be as simple as Discord or What’s App, or as involved as monthly newsletters, websites, or email chains.
* Who the most important voices are and why, and who doesn’t really get to speak, and whether that changes with time.
* If you can remember, tell us about the first time you encountered some specific word or phrase that the DC uses that took you by surprise. When was it? Who used it? How did you feel about it? Has the use of the word or phrase changed over time, and why?

**Conclusion:** Tell us what you took away from doing this project.

* What surprised you to learn about the DC.
* What you learned about how discourse communities work as a whole.
* If it changed your perception of your DC and how.