

UNIT ONE: DISCOURSE COMMUNITY PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Due Date: Monday, September 21st, 2020

Word Count: 1500 words.

Now that we've explored the general definition of a Discourse Community and how it impacts language, identity, and culture, I want you to consider one of your *own* Discourse Communities and how it's impacted you. For this written assignment, I want you to select *one* of your DCs and describe it using the personal narrative genre to help guide your words. There are a series of questions your essay should answer:

- What is the selected DC and how did you become a member?
- How do members speak, dress, and interact with each other?
- Do you enjoy you being in this DC? Why or why not?
- How does your DC handle “pretenders”/outsiders who may try to come in?
- How does a person attain membership in the selected community? Is it a birthright or can people become fluent through studying and practicing?
- What is the most important “rule” within the community and what are the consequences for breaking the rule?
- Are there any hypocrisies within your selected DC?

Providing really specific answers will be necessary in order to meet the paper requirements. This suggested list of topics are not the only things you can write about; feel free to include any additional info you'd like to share about your DC that you deem relevant.

You will be graded on:

- Genre Awareness—is your paper written as a personal narrative? Is the narrative voice strong?
- Word count—is the paper roughly 1250 words?
- Language—are you using acceptable grammar and proper spelling?
- Clarity—is your message clear? Are your descriptions of your DC vivid and detailed?
- Prompt Instructions—did you answer every suggestion the prompt brings up?
- Written Presentation—is the paper written in black ink, size twelve, and Times New Roman font? Does it follow basic MLA standards? Does your paper look aesthetically pleasing?