English 1121

Unit 2 Inquiry-Based Research Assignment

Instructor: Patrick Redmond

Now that you have investigated and reflected on a discourse community that you are a member of, I want you to take the role of an active member. Identify an issue or a problem within the community that needs to be addressed and explore this issue through a research project. The final version of the project will be 1500-2000 words. The final paper will include at least one scholarly source (peer reviewed from City Tech’s library databases), three general sources (such as articles, podcasts, or videos), and at least one primary source (Either an interview with someone who is a part of the discourse community you choose, or a survey)

This project is designed to build your research skills, and to make you further aware of the communities you are a part of. If you do not want to continue with the discourse community that you started with in Unit 1, you may choose to research a new one. If you would prefer to work in groups (2-3 people) for this project you may.

I will be using the rubric you were given on the first day of class to grade this assignment, but in addition you will have three smaller assignments which will lead up to your final project. Below is a brief description of each and their grade weight, but I will give you further instruction when their due dates arrive.

1. **Project Proposal (5%) Due 03/02:** You will write a project proposal (250-500 Words) that answers:

A) What is the discourse community, and what is the issue you will be researching?

B) Why did you choose this community? What is its importance?

C) What is your research question?

D) Why is this particular issue important? What can be gained about solving this issue? What is your personal connection to the issue?

E) Who is the audience that you are trying reach, and why?

 \*\*If you are working in groups I would still like you to write proposals individually. I want to know why you are interested not just the group.

1. **Annotated Bibliography (20%) Due 03/09**: I will dedicate half of a class to explain this further, but essentially an annotated bibliography is assessing your sources. You will include your MLA citations of your five sources along with a summary of your source, a description of its credibility, and an explanation of how you will use the source in your paper.
2. **Interview/Survey (5%) Due 03/11:** Some of you may have already started this in your last paper, but I would like you to interview someone in your discourse community and the issue your paper is investigating. You will ask them 10-20 questions that are pertinent, and then you will produce a transcript along with a **500 word** analysis of the survey or interview.
3. **Rough Draft/ Peer Review (20%) Due 03/16:** Like the last paper, you are required to submit a rough draft and do a peer review for this paper. The process will be similar to the last paper.
4. **Final Project (50%) Due 03/25.**

\*As always if you have any questions please email me or meet me in my office hours.