

ENG 3080J

Writing & Rhetoric II



WP2: Professional Writing in My Field



WP2 continues the work from WP1, but this time we'll be focusing on writing done by a professional instead of a student. You'll need to find a single article written by a professional in your field for other professionals in your field, such as the kind of writing found in scholarly or professional journals. Like with WP1, you'll be analyzing the article based on vocabulary, grammar, organization, citation, data and source use, and non-linguistic elements, and you'll be looking for how these features make writing for your field unique. You will also analyze the forum that the article was published in.

Learning Objectives

- To analyze writing features important to writing in your field.
- To read like a writer in your field and read professional writing as a reader.
- To analyze how writing in your field may differ from writing in other fields.
- To study the types of features that commonly differentiate discourse communities.
- To build on deep rhetorical reading techniques.

Length and Content Requirements

- All drafts must be a minimum of 1500 words or the multimodal equivalent.
- All projects must include at least one mode other than written text.

Due Dates

- Completion Draft: October 5th
- Final Draft: October 14th

Submission

- Please submit your completion and final drafts in Google Drive by placing your file in your shared folder with me.
- All documents should be named with your name, your class, and the assignment (e.g. "Malcolm Reynolds ENG 3080J WP2").
- Submit text documents as Google Docs (not Word docs or PDFs).
- Submit multimodal documents either by uploading files into your Google Drive folder or by placing links in a Google Doc.

Form

Choose a form that suits your content: for example, if you will be focusing on visuals, use a visual format. Possible forms include video, animation, podcast, webpage, infographic, etc. If you choose a traditional paper, it still must include visuals, audio, and/or links to other media.

Please ask for help! I encourage you to try various forms, even if they are new to you. If you do not know how to make the content you want, ask!

Basics

The Basics are a demonstration of the basic understanding of the assignment. Completion drafts will be graded solely on your understanding of the basics.

- Select an appropriate article to focus on. You'll need to select something that is directly related to your major or future career. The article needs to be written by a professional for other professionals (not written for a general audience). You can find these types of articles in professional, technical, or scholarly journals for your field.
- Like with WP1, you should read the article you are using carefully, paying special attention to the ways that the author is trying to convey meaning to the reader. In particular, pay special attention to:
 - The vocabulary the writer is using. Are there words or phrases a general reader would not understand? Does the writer tend to use "I" or avoid it?
 - The grammar the writer is using. Does the writer generally use passive or active voice? Are the sentences long and complex or simple and direct?
 - The organization of the entire piece of writing. What are the major sections of the writing? Why do they come in that order? Where is the main point expressed, at the beginning or the end?
 - The citation practices the writer is using. What citation format is used? Is the citation format stuck to strictly or is it loosely followed? Are there modifications to the citation format?
 - The way data and sources are used in the piece of writing. Is the data mainly primary (the writer gathered it themselves) or secondary (the writer is using other sources)? How is the data presented? Are there many quotes or more paraphrases? How many sources are used?
 - The non-linguistic elements the writer is using. Does the piece of writing include elements such as charts, graphs, equations, symbols, images, models, or other ways to convey information that aren't simply language? If so, how are they used and how do they convey meaning to the audience?
- Analyze the forum that the article was published in. What is the specific purpose of this publication? Based on what you can find out, who are the readers of the publication? What does the publication do to cater to those readers? How does your article fit into this publication?
- Stay focused on the article you've selected, but you are welcome to mention two connections to other pieces of writing: How is this article similar or different from the student writing you analyzed for WP1? And how does this article compare to other writing you've read for your major? But like with WP1, the focus for WP2 should be primarily the article that you've chosen.

Grading

The following criteria will be used to determine grades for the final draft:

Expectations	Exceptional	Met	Not Met
Focus	The project is focused on the article selected with direct comparisons to the student writing from WP1 and some mention of other writing in the field.	The project stays focused primarily on the article selected with some comparisons to the student writing from WP1.	The project focuses heavily on other topics besides the main article and/or offers no comparisons to WP1 or other writing in the field.
Selection of Article	The article you have selected is written by a professional in your field for other professionals and is representative of writing in your field.	The article you have selected is written by a professional in your field for other professionals.	The piece of writing selected is not written by a professional and/or is not written for other professionals in your field.
Analysis of Vocabulary	You have explained at least five vocabulary words unique to your field and clearly explained both how and why they were used.	You have explained at least three vocabulary words unique to your field.	Fewer than three vocabulary words are discussed and/or these words are not unique to or common in your field.
Analysis of Grammar	You have clearly explained three or more grammar features from your article that are unique to your field.	You have explained at least two grammar features from article that are common in your field.	Grammar features are not discussed and/or these features are not unique to or common in your field.
Analysis of Organization	You have clearly explained the organizational structure and broken down why the structure is organized how it is.	You have explained the basic organizational structure and how that structure is used in the field.	The explanation of the organizational structure is unclear or no explanation for the structure is given.
Analysis of Citation	You have correctly identified the citation format used and explained at least two ways it has been modified, including a short explanation for the modification.	You have correctly identified the citation format used and explained at least one way in which it has been modified.	The citation format is incorrectly identified, modifications are incorrectly identified, or no explanation for modifications is given.

Grading (Continued)

Expectations	Exceptional	Met	Not Met
Analysis of Data and Sources	You have clearly identified two or more kinds of data that are used and how each is used differently.	You have explained what kind of data is being used and how that data is used.	The data is not clearly identified or the explanation for how it's used is unclear.
Analysis of Non-Linguistic Features	You have clearly explained how at least two non-linguistic elements are used and clearly explained how they convey meaning to the audience.	You have explained how at least one non-linguistic element conveys meaning to the audience.	No non-linguistic elements are explained, or it is not clear how these elements convey meaning to the audience.
Analysis of Forum	You have explained where the article was published and clearly articulate how the journal caters to professionals in the field. You give specific examples.	You have explained where the article was published and what kind of professional the publication is designed for.	The publication forum is not included or how the publication reaches professionals is not discussed.
Explanation of Specific Examples	Each of the seven features has at least one representative example such as a quote or screen shot. Each example is connected to overall points made about that feature.	Each of the above seven features has at least one example such as a quote or screen shot. Each example is clearly explained.	One or more of the above features is missing an example or the examples are not clearly explained.
Manuscript Preparation	You have responded carefully and thoughtfully to your peers' feedback.	You have responded to your peers' feedback.	Response to peers' feedback is minimal.
Attention to Assignment	Your document is at least 1500 words, includes at least two multimodal elements, is organized in a reasonable way, is shared correctly in Drive, and is named appropriately.	Your document is at least 1500 words, includes at least one multimodal element, and is organized in a reasonable way.	The project is well short of the 1500-word equivalent, does not include any multimodal elements, and/or is organized in a way that's hard to follow.

Grading (Continued)

Your grade for WP2 will be determined by the criteria above. A “not met” cancels out one “exceptional.”

		# Exceptional	# Met	# Not Met
A	100	12	0	0
	97.5	11	1	0
	95	10	2	0
A-	92.5	9	3	0
	90	8	4	0
B+	88.5	7	5	0
	87	6	6	0
B	85	5	7	0
	83	4	8	0
B-	80	3	9	0
C+	78.5	2	10	0
C	75	1	11	0
	73	0	12	0
C-	70	0	11	1
D+	68.5	0	10	2
D	65	0	9	3
D-	60	0	8	4