

ENG 3080J

Writing & Rhetoric II



WP3: Day-to-Day Writing in My Field



WP3 continues to look at professional writing in your field, but this time, we'll be looking at the writing professionals do in their day-to-day lives on the job. You'll be required to interview one working professional in the field you'd like to go into (or a very close field) about the writing they do as part of their job. When possible, you'll collect samples of this writing as well. Then, you'll compare what you learned from WP1 and WP2 to the writing this person does as part of their job.

Learning Objectives

- To analyze writing features important to writing in your field.
- To enumerate the writing practices common in your field.
- To compare day-to-day writing with formal writing for your field.
- 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 learn interviewing 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: November 2nd
- Final Draft: November 16th

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 WP3").
- 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.

- Find a professional willing to be interviewed. This person should be someone in your field in a position that you might hope to have some day. Ideally, this person is in the same field as the one you explored in WP1 and WP2—try to get as close as possible.
- Interview this person in person, via video chat, or via phone. Please record the interview with the interviewee's permission. Text interviews (via email or text message) are *only* acceptable if no other method is possible. Text interviews must be approved by Ryan *in advance* of the interview, and documentation of trying to find a different method must be provided. Interview recordings should be submitted along with your draft.
- Develop a set of questions to ask your interviewee about writing in your field, such as what kinds of writing they do regularly, what is important in those kinds of writing, what tips they'd provide for new writers in the field, what was different about the writing than they had expected, and so forth. Please note that the interviews should focus specifically on writing in the field and not the job in general. Questions for the interviews will be developed during class time. A copy of the questions asked should also be submitted along with your draft.
- In the written part of your project, you will summarize and synthesize what you learned from the interview. You will make points directly in your voice and use quotes, paraphrases, or even audio clips to help demonstrate your points. Please try to come to an overall summary of what the main takeaways are for day-to-day writing in your field.
- Finally, you will compare what you learned from your interviewee with what you learned from WP1 and WP2: What features of day-to-day writing were similar to student writing and formal writing in your field? What features were different? Were there any clashes between what you learned in WP1 and WP2, and what you learned from the interview? How do you explain those differences?

Grading

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

Expectations	Exceptional	Met	Not Met
Focus	The project stays very focused on day-to-day writing in the field and includes direct but relevant connections to WP1 and WP2.	The project stays focused on day-to-day writing in your field and includes some comparisons to WP1 and WP2.	The project focuses heavily on topics other than day-to-day writing in the field and/or does not include comparisons to WP1 and WP2.

Grading (Continued)

Expectations	Exceptional	Met	Not Met
Interview Preparation	You have interviewed a professional who is in a position similar to one you'd like and who has extensive experience with writing in your field. Your questions are insightful and get at important ideas about writing for your field.	You have interviewed a professional working in your field and have prepared reasonable questions specifically focused on writing.	The interviewee was not related to the field or not a working professional and/or questions do not focus on writing in the field.
Writing Experiences	You have gotten into the details about both day-to-day and unique writing experiences with your interviewee.	You have explored both the day-to-day writing in your field and unique writing experiences with your interviewee.	Writing experiences are covered only at the surface level. Day-to-day or unique writing may be missing.
Writing Tips	You have gotten substantial and helpful tips for both novice and experienced writers in your field.	You have explored tips your interviewee would give to writers in your field.	Tips are missing, do not relate to writing, or are covered only on the surface level.
Summary	You have clearly, concisely, and accurately represented the content of your interview.	You have accurately represented the content of your interview.	The content of the interview has not been accurately represented.
Overall Takeaways	You clearly and directly state early in your draft what the main takeaways are about day-to-day writing in your field and connect back to them directly in the body of the draft.	You directly state what the main takeaways from the interview are about day-to-day writing in your field.	Takeaways are not clearly stated or are disconnected from the content of the project.
Use of Quotations	You have quoted your interviewee thoughtfully, choosing quotes that represent larger points well.	You have quoted your interviewee appropriately.	Quotes are missing or poorly selected.

Grading (Continued)

Writing Samples	You have more than one writing sample from your interviewee. These writing samples are explained clearly and connected to main points.	You have at least one writing sample from your interviewee. This sample is explained.	No writing samples are provided, or the writing samples are not explained.
Comparison to WP1 and WP2	You clearly explain at least two ways in which your interviewee's suggestions line up with your analysis of writing from WP1 and WP2.	You have found at least one way in which your interviewee's suggestions line up with your analysis of the writing from WP1 and WP2.	No comparisons to WP1 or WP2 are given, or the comparisons are not explained clearly.
Contrast with WP1 and WP2	You clearly explain at least two ways in which your interviewee's suggestions contrast with your analysis of writing from WP1 and WP2. You offer a clear and convincing suggestion for why there is a contrast.	You have found at least one way in which your interviewee's suggestions contrast with your analysis of writing from WP1 and WP2. You offer a suggestion for why there is a contrast.	No contrasts to WP1 or WP2 are given, or the contrasts 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. Interview recordings and questions are provided.	Your document is at least 1500 words, includes at least one multimodal element, and is organized in a reasonable way. Interview recordings and questions are provided.	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. Interview recordings and/or questions are not provided.

Grading (Continued)

Your grade for WP3 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