

Essay 2 ~ Reporting: How do we Translate Literacy into Skills?

English 1101

Now that we have explored our own experiences with career literacy, how can we proactively seek an understanding of others' narratives? This essay tasks you with conducting an interview with someone who has become an authority or entered a profession as a result of their skills in literacy who can speak to the challenges and affordances of their role—what their roles asks them to do, what is challenging, and what they are able to do, especially as it relates to one of the literacies discussed in Chapter 1. You will use your data to generate a claim about this profession and its grounding in literacies. The interview data will be used to support a series of claims about this profession and its intersections with literacies. Your report will also discuss how you plan to use this information in Essay 3.

OBJECTIVE: Compose a short piece that reports on your major findings from the interview and discusses how you will use the interview data in your Essay 3.

1. Identify someone to interview (a professor, your boss, someone you have worked with, the director of a volunteer or non-profit organization, someone involved in fund-raising, etc.). You may want to consider your own volunteer and school activities from before or while attending GSU. The interview may be conducted via phone, email, or other non-physical means. It is important to contextualize this person's credentials in your eventual paper. Someone who has earned a degree in a given field as a result of their skillset or who is professionally employed due to their skills is your most reliable option, but how their skills manifest may differ—someone with a high level of computer literacy may be a software engineer or may apply their skill toward a different profession altogether, like management or teaching. For those of you writing about cultural and hobby literacy, you may need to identify someone with community-established credentials, like those who run their own websites, own stores related to these literacies, or have some other visible presence. Important to remember here is that you want to focus on the intersections between career and literacy in your interview; therefore, you should consider talking to someone who has some kind of professional presence.
2. Create an interview plan that includes a formal set of questions. Spend a good bit of time crafting questions that will get the best and most relevant information from the interviewee. Plan to record to the conversation if possible (using your phone or another device) AND to take detailed notes as you interview. Conduct the interview.
3. After interviewing, listen back/review the interview and analyze your notes/data looking for patterns OR trends in responses, especially where the information from your interview coheres with (or deviates from) your own experiences. Generate a claim about your major findings.
4. Write a short report that presents this claim as a thesis statement. Use the information from your interview to support your claim. Make sure to include some information about how you will use this interview data in Essay 3. This report is **not** a narrative of your experience of interviewing. The essay uses details *from* the interview to present your findings and give readers a reason to accept your claims about this profession and its roots in a certain type of literacy.

Requirements: A 3-page essay that includes:

- An instructor-approved point of contact
- A clear thesis statement that presents your major findings from the interview
- Detailed evidence to support your claim that comes from your interview (e.g. direct quotes from interviewees, summaries of their stories/explanations)
- A coherent organizational structure that supports your claim (includes introduction and conclusion)
- MLA citation for all sources in attached Works Cited page
- Proofreading and MLA formatting
- A set of research questions as an appendix.

WHEN:

First draft due on iCollege for Peer Review by Wed. Feb. 24 @ 5 PM.

Final draft due on iCollege by Wed. Mar. 3 @ 5 PM.

Essay 2 ~ CTC Literacy Interview Report Grading Rubric

- 10 pts. You turn your 3-page paper in on time via iCollege.
- 10 pts. An instructor-approved point of contact
- 20 pts. A clear thesis statement that presents your major findings from the interview
- 20 pts. Detailed evidence to support your claim that comes from your interview
(e.g. direct quotes from interviewees, summaries of their stories/explanations)
- 20 pts. A coherent organizational structure that supports your claim (includes introduction and conclusion)
- 10 pts. MLA citation for all sources in attached Works Cited page and a set of research questions as an appendix
- 10 pts. Proofreading and MLA formatting (12-pt. font, double-spacing, 1-inch margins, etc.)