

ENG 430 | Spring 2021

M. Novotny

### Assignment 3: Field Research Assignment (20 pts)

[Individual assignment.](#)

#### Description:

This assignment asks students to gather information about the writing practices of health and medicine. Specifically, this assignment asks students to conduct research and develop a report that focuses on a specific health issue (i.e. asthma or acne) or medical profession (i.e. epidemiologist or radiation therapist). After selecting a specific focus, the student will report on: the genre of health/medicine that is produced, the training that person receives to write about that topic, who their audience or stakeholders are (who consumes that information), and the challenges they face in writing that information. A works cited page will be submitted with the report along with a 1-page reflection about what was interesting, surprising, or challenging in doing this assignment.

#### Purpose:

To research how either a health issue (i.e. acne) is written about OR how a specific health profession (i.e. pediatric nurse) uses writing.

#### Steps:

- (1) Identify if you want to research either a health issue or a health profession and a question or two you want to guide your investigation of this issue/profession.
- (2) Consider where you may get information to inform your research. (AKA will you use some of the information offered on the OWL sites OR do you need to consult articles/medical society websites/etc.)
- (3) Develop your research plan for this assignment. For your plan, come with a one-page doc that explains: (1) what you are investigating; (2) your approach to investigate; (3) the resources you plan on consulting; (4) your rationale as to why those resources are appropriate and supportive of your investigation goals. \*\*You'll come to class with this on Tues. Feb 9<sup>th</sup>.
- (4) Gather your data. (AKA: do your plan). \*\*This will happen on Thurs. Feb 11<sup>th</sup> when we don't have class.
- (5) Bring your data to class to troubleshoot discuss what is working well, what is not, additional information you need to find. \*\*This will happen on Tues. Feb 16<sup>th</sup>.

(6) Develop a working draft of your report. \*\* This will happen on Thurs. Feb 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Deliverables:**

- (1) This **report** should be **written as a memo** and should be 3 double-spaced pages. The memo should include sub-sections that address:
  - a. The health issue or profession you are investigating and a guiding question or two that you are asking as you do this research.
  - b. The data you found (incorporating in-text discussion of some the sources you used to find that data)
  - c. A 500-word response to your question/s posed above. (AKA use the data you collected in part "b" of this assignment to answer the question/s you posed in part "a".)
- (2) A **reference page** will be submitted with the report in APA citation style.
- (3) A **1-page reflection** about what was interesting, surprising, or challenging in doing this assignment. You may also want to discuss and reflect if you are satisfied with the information you found and how capable you are of answering your initial guiding question/s.

**Due Date: 11:59 pm on. Sat. Feb 20<sup>th</sup> to Canvas.**