Assignment #16

Oral presentation: 4 minute talk, with 1 minute for Q&A

Presenters: Describe for your audience 2 promising sources for your investigative essay, and how & why you expect them to be useful for your paper. (Note: these should be 2 sources that you have identified and described in your Annotated Bibliography.) At least one of these sources should be a book. The other source may be a book, journal article, or encyclopedia article.

1) A book
   - Title, author, publication date, author's background
   - Purpose and scope of book (Look at the Introduction and the Table of Contents)
   - In what way do you expect this book to be useful for you?
2) An encyclopedia article
   - Describe the encyclopedia: who publishes it? What is its scope? What is its most recent publication date?
   - Is the article signed? If so, who is the author, and what are his or her credentials?
   - What's contained in the articles itself?
   - Why will this article be useful?
   - Might other classmates find this encyclopedia useful? For what kinds of topics?
3) A journal article
   - Title, author, publication date, author's background
   - Where published, for what audience
   - Purpose and scope of article
4) Q & A
   - Questions might be for clarification or for more about the sources

NOTES:
- Your talk should fill the 4 minutes.
- We won't use slides for these talks. Write the titles and authors of your sources on the blackboard.
- You will need to start by telling the class the focus of your investigative essay and the question you're trying to answer (the "motivating question").
- Ten students will present on the first day of Oral Presentations, with the remainder going the second day.

AND:
- Practice! The more you practice your talk, the more confident you will be in conveying its essential points. Practice for timing, too.

- I'll evaluate your presentation based on content, organization, and delivery. Grades will be 1-5

The audience's role: Your job as a member of the audience is to listen attentively and try to really understand how these sources will help the writer answer her or his motivating question. You should also be listening for clues as to how you might use these sources, or similar ones, for your own work. An attentive audience is an important part of a successful talk.

Rubric for Evaluating Oral Presentations

Content

Structure
- Follows guidelines
- Presents information in a sequence that's easy to follow
- Provides emphasis: what's important? What's especially interesting or promising about these sources?

Clarity
- Points are clear: Clear thinking, clear sentences

Delivery

Vocal
- The speaker articulates clearly
- S/he speaks fluently—i.e., without a lot of pauses and stumbles—and at a good pace—not too fast
- Volume is appropriate for the space
- Speaker avoids "like," "you know," "uh…," etc. and also avoids upspeak—that is, the speaker doesn't make statements sound like questions.

Physical
- Speaker makes frequent eye contact with audience (whole audience and individuals; not just instructor)
- Speaker's posture is alert yet easy, i.e., not stiff
- Speaker smiles and looks confident
- Gestures aid clarity and emphasis and don't seem random
- Attire need not be formal, but it shouldn't be so casual or sloppy that it distracts or detracts from your talk.

REVISE Profile or Archive article

As you revise, especially consider:
- What's the story I'm telling?
- How does this article engage readers—get and keep them interested?
- Does the balance of parts feel right?

NOTE: When you hand in your new draft, please include this cover sheet along with the first draft with my comments.

Name **_____**   MWA#3 Draft 2

1) **What has changed in this draft? Please be specific.**

2) **What do you think is the most interesting thing about the story you're telling? Why?**

3) **What was most challenging about writing this article?**

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