

Community Assignment

Draft (20 pts) post to Week 7 Workshop forum *Sunday, February 21, by 11:59 pm (EST)*

Classmate Responses (20 pts) post to Week 7 Workshop forum *Wednesday, February 24, by 11:59 pm (EST)*

Final (60 pts) submit via Bb Assignments link *Sunday, February 28, by 11:59 pm (EST)*

For this assignment, I would like you to choose two current articles (2020-2021) from two different **local** media publications, including newspapers, magazines, blogs, etc., that discuss or report the **same community issue** or problem and compare and contrast the sources. Alternatively, you could compare the reporting of a local community issue to how it's discussed nationally or internationally. Ultimately, **you are evaluating the sources themselves**, not providing a solution to the issue or voicing your support for or against a specific "side." The goal of this assignment is to develop your topical information literacy skills in evaluating different sources on a specific issue.

Questions to consider: What is your chosen local issue, and why did you choose to compare these two kinds of sources on this topic? Who is the intended audience in each article? How does the writing style and language used in the article differ depending on the audience? How many structural components can you identify for each article? (e.g., introduction, background, analysis, etc.) Is there a review of facts relating to the topic or a review of other pertinent articles? Does the article include in-text citations and/or a list of references? Does the article reach any new conclusions or suggest topics for further study? What is the key message communicated in each article? Would you use the publication in a research project and why? And finally, how could misinformation potentially affect perceptions of this issue and its public narrative? (Be specific and cite quotes to support your argument.)

Requirements

Assignment should be at least 4-5 pages, double-spaced. Please format your essay according to MLA style. A "Works Cited" page is required to cite all sources used.

Here are some local Louisville media publications to get you started! (But please don't feel limited to this list.)

- Insider Louisville
- The Courier-Journal
- The Voice-Tribune
- Business First
- The Louisville Eccentric (LEO)
- The Louisville Defender
- Louisville Magazine
- Louisville Music News

Classmate Responses: You will be giving feedback to two classmates' drafts for the Week 7 Workshop. Each response is worth 10 points and should be around 300 words. Upon completion of both responses, you will receive 20 points in total. I will assign whose drafts you will respond to for the workshop and post those lists on Blackboard. Here are some things you should include for a good response:

- Begin your response with a friendly greeting, "Hi John," etc. Make sure that your response includes your name at the bottom (e.g., "Sincerely, Jane").
- Always begin by noticing what works well in the draft, e.g. organizational structure (*I notice that your infographic maps literacy practices in community X from 2000-2005 and is organized chronologically. I think that is a very effective choice for your research, since the audience will be able to follow your data easily.*)
- Give the writer work to do – what TASK(S) do they need to complete to make the draft better? (*I notice that your research questions appear at the end of your writer's memo instead of the beginning. In order to improve your draft, I think it would make more sense to include them when you give context for your project in your first paragraph.*)
- Be specific and use direct quotes and page numbers from the writer's draft(s) whenever possible.

#community #multimodality #currentnews