

Linguistic Mode Project:

a synthesis essay

Summary

This document contains instructions for the Linguistic Mode Project. The essay will ask you to respond to two pieces of writing with a synthesis essay. *This project has an associated proposal and a reflection.* The introduction explains the reasons for the project. The deliverables section names and delineates the project deliverables, which include a proposal with an audience analysis, a rough draft, a Camera Ready Copy (CRC), and a reflective commentary. This document also relates the general timetable for the project from beginning to end, and subdivides the deliverables into process chunks.

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Introduction

The essay will ask you to examine the affordances and limitations of both print and digital linguistic communication modes, often referred to as alphabetic text. We are accessing this knowledge through the linguistic mode. Your Instructor will provide three (3) articles and, like Apples to Apples or CAH you will “draw 3 and pick 2”. Read all three and then choose two to work with, for this project. Explain those choices briefly in your proposal. We begin with written text because it is a valuable mode of communication and most of us are well versed in this mode by now. Although, perhaps we have not *really* held it under the microscope. This makes linguistic mode a great place to ask ourselves, “What have I *really* been doing with my words?”

The Learning Objectives

- demonstrating a clear understanding of what the linguistic mode offers to us, and limits us to.
- choosing a pair of sources and developing a conversation between them relevant to multimodality
- considering the audience and their needs when it comes to linguistic modes of communication
- refining your ideas about alphabetic text and joining the scholarly conversation in your essay

Deliverables

This section lists the various deliverables that are expected as waypoints in the navigation of this project. Deliverables will consist of:

- a project proposal with an audience analysis
- a rough draft of the linguistic mode essay
- a final copy free of all editing markup
- a reflection

The Proposal

This deliverable is a crossover between academic and professional writing. The proposal must contain the following headings and corresponding sections. See example in the **Composition Toolbox** module.

Summary
Introduction- including audience analysis
Proposed Content
Schedule and Workflow
Budget
Expertise
References

Purpose:

Both internal and external proposals are intended for a specific audience. In short the person that can grant permission, funding, materials, and access for you to undertake a project. Proposals also function as an organizer for our rhetorical situation: Rhetor/Purpose, Audience, Text/Topic, Constraints, Exigence.

Timing

This phase will be due somewhere around a week after its first release in Canvas. See Canvas assignment details for exact dates.

Scoring

This deliverable will be evaluated separately using the rubric associated with this class and it carries a 5 point value (5% of the course grade). Completing the proposal is necessary to move to the next phase of this project.

The Draft

Purpose

This deliverable should be as complete as you can make it. All sections that you intend to include should be mostly composed and organized. We should treat the draft as if the document were heading to the Editor. A draft is not perfect and we should not aim for perfection . . . yet . . . the more you write: the more there is to comment on. Here we should aim for communicating the ideas you have found important in the texts and sharing the thoughts they provoked or encouraged in your own mind. Use only the associated texts provided in the Canvas Linguistic Project module for this project; no outside sources. This sort of writing is more than just reporting what you found and what the authors said. It is a space where you can let your reader see the meaning that you saw in the texts, how they connected or butted heads, and share why this is important for us now. This link will help you determine what a synthesis is and does -

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/conducting_research/research_overview/synthesizing_sources.html

Note: Two peers will review the Draft, and you, in turn, will review Drafts from two of your peers. The commenting will perhaps locate some mechanical and grammatical errors but that is not the primary purpose of this peer review. We want to discover where the writing is clear and where it is not. Where is the logic broken? Where have assumptions been made or biases introduced? We are dealing with the big ideas here at this stage: the global issues.

Timing

This draft will be submitted about one week after the Proposal was submitted. The Draft will be reviewed by two of your colleagues who will look for errors and for readability, formatting, completeness, and above all clarity. You will use the feedback from those review comments to prepare your final CRC. You will in turn proofread two of your peer' drafts.

Scoring

This deliverable will be evaluated as complete/incomplete. A mark of Complete is necessary to move to the next phase.

The CRC Final

The final copy of the synthesis essay for the Linguistic Mode Project should be free of errors, coherent, clear prose that makes a synthesis (argumentative or explanatory) between the readings for this project. A good range for a Synthesis essay is 1000 – 1800 words but it is far more important to clearly, and thoroughly, explore your topic than it is to hit some arbitrary word count.

Purpose

This deliverable should be as complete as you can make it. You have received the feedback from your peers and have revised accordingly. PDF files are the recommended standard because they preserve document formatting. This is your show copy, your Camera Ready Copy. Remember though until it leaves the publisher changes can be made . . . they just get more difficult as we approach press time.

You should:

1. Correct all changes that you tracked and remove all annotations in the draft
2. Resolve all comments that have been made in editing
3. Then (and only then) save as a PDF.
4. The final copy should be a clean, polished copy free of editing marks of any kind.

Timing

This CRC will be submitted about a week after the Draft was submitted.

Scoring

The project is worth 10 points or 10% of the final course grade and will be evaluated with the rubric common to this course.

(Optional) Timetable for you to use in planning your work schedule—you do not have to use this but please, use something to plan and track your progress.

Activity	Start	Complete	Submission	Notes
<i>Audience Analysis</i>				
<i>Draft</i>				
<i>Edit</i>				
<i>Revise</i>				
<i>Feedback</i>				
<i>Rough Draft</i>				
<i>Draft</i>				
<i>Edit</i>				
<i>Revise</i>				
<i>Feedback</i>				
<i>CRC</i>				
<i>Revise</i>				
<i>CRC</i>				

Other Requirements

Please save all files in this course as:

`[Lastname].assignment.stage.fileextension`

For example my file for the draft would look like:

Robertshaw.linguistic.draft.docx

And for the final it would look like:

Robertshaw.linguistic.crc.pdf