

Writing Project #2: Visual/Aural/Spatial Analysis

Assignment

Your assignment is to conduct a formal analysis on an image, a song, or a location of your choice. To complete this assignment, you need to compose a personalized list of elements that you will use to conduct your analysis; explain how the image, song, or location itself suggests those elements; and then “argue” how and why those elements work together to influence the audience’s reception. In other words, you want to describe what the image, song, or location make you feel, think, and/or do, and connect that to the assumed intention(s) of the “author.”

Your paper should:

- assert a thesis that 1) explicitly states what you believe the composer is trying to do, and 2) develops an argument to prove this impression;
- provide context that will help your intended readers understand the importance of the image, song, or location to individuals and our society in a complex way;
- use specific rhetorical strategies that will engage the audience you seek;
- provide evidence that supports your thesis by explaining how the highlighted elements contribute to the overall purpose of the text;
- follow citation format appropriate to your field. (For this paper you will have ONE source listed on your Works Cited page *if* you are using an image or a song.)

You should know by now that your readers have high standards for arguments they take seriously. As you develop your argument, your goals will be to

- demonstrate a thorough understanding of the “text”;
- base your argument on evidence rather than opinion;
- write with your readers in mind.

If you meet these goals, you should establish credibility with your readers. Unsubstantiated opinion, vague generalities, or easily recognizable logical fallacies will cause your audience to dismiss your argument as insubstantial and/or inconclusive.

*Rough Draft due:

*Final Draft Due:

Intended Readers

Your paper addresses readers across different academic communities, a general group that should be characterized as diverse and well informed but not necessarily expert. Your goal is to make your research as relevant as possible to a wide audience despite its scholarly framework. Remember to use appropriate terminology with definitions as needed to illustrate a point.

Reminders

The University Writing Center is available to all students. Assistance from UWC tutors or from peers is authorized so long as all writing is original and yours.

Format and Required Documents

Your paper should

- be double-spaced;
- be 5 pages minimum, 12 point font (Times New Roman,);
- justified on the left-hand margin;
- follow standard MLA guidelines for the heading, pagination, internal documentation, and Works Cited.