



Assignment Three (900-1000 words)

Due 11/11

Patricia Roberts Miller's "[Characteristics of Demagoguery](#)" describes forms of communication that are coercive, authoritarian, and dangerous to democracy. Werry's [analyzing authoritarian populist rhetorics](#) handout extends Roberts Miller's framework. Use Roberts Miller or Werry's handout as a "lens" to analyze the demagogic/authoritarian text of your choice.

- You could use [George Wallace's "segregation" speech](#) (although the bar will be higher since this has been analyzed a lot already, so you will need to work to find an interesting angle)
- January 6 speeches, Warner's "[Hoist It High](#)" or the Poway shooter's [open letter](#), or any other text of your choosing.
- Many of David Duke's speeches are available online. If you feel like having fun you could consider looking at transcripts from the [Alex Jones' show](#) INFOWARS.

You can compare two texts. For example, you could a) analyze in detail several elements of demagoguery in Wallace, or b) analyze in detail several elements of demagoguery in an alternative text you choose, or c) compare an element of demagoguery in Wallace with a contemporary text. You can contact me to discuss your ideas.

1. Compose an introductory paragraph providing background on the author, when and where the text was published, and the author's purpose. In a single sentence, provide an overview of what your paper will do.
2. Use concepts from Roberts-Miller and/or Werry to analyze your chosen text(s). Discuss examples of demagogic and/or authoritarian language, explaining how they work and their potential effect on the audience. Use plenty of quotations to support your interpretation. **Examine the language closely and in detail. This is the focus of your paper and you should devote most of your paper to this.**
3. If you are comparing two texts, discuss points of connection and/or contrast.
4. In a concluding paragraph, sum up your analysis, or share some of your own thoughts on the text or topic.
5. Separately, in your A.I. reflection journal, document and reflect on your use of A.I. tools in this paper. Include discussion of how helpful (or not) these tools were for analysis and feedback. Include a link to your reflection at the end of this paper.

Additional Resources:

Demagoguery Decoder: I create a custom GPT called "[Demagoguery Decoder](#)." You are welcome to experiment with this. It uses Roberts Miller's work and my handouts as a knowledge base.

MyEssayFeedback [Demagoguery Prompt](#). You can use this to get feedback on your draft. Best to use just the analysis section and not the introduction or conclusion.

Where to hand it in: [share a link to your Google doc here](#)

Format

- Compose this paper in Google docs in your [Google folder](#). Include your name and the date in the Google doc filename.
 - Use MLA format. Include a title for your paper, your name, and the date.
 - Use one-inch margins, double spacing, and Include page numbers.
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