Project 1: Contribution & Annotated Rationale

Every time we log online, we take part in various digital cultures. Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc, each have their own particular kind of culture, or, expectations for how to behave and contribute to those particular platforms. As such, before one can effectively contribute to a given digital culture, whatever culture that might be, they must first learn those expectations in order to either align or subvert them, depending on their purpose. Our first major project, then, asks you to perform a formal version of such practices.

The Purpose

Overall, the goal of this project is for you to practice analyzing and contributing to a digital culture of your choosing. This means you can contribute to a Wiki for your favorite game, post a compelling Twitter essay about a particular topic, create an effective dating profile; basically, find a particular digital culture or subculture you'd like to know more about, and want to practice contributing to. While you do not have to formally post your contribution, do keep in mind the limitations of the interface platform your culture relies on (you'd need to format your Word Document as a series of Tweets if you didn't want to actually post on Twitter, for example).

The Product

Your first assignment will be twofold: you will craft an original contribution to your chosen digital culture/subculture, and provide an annotated rationale explaining your particular choices and how you intended them to either align or misalign from the cultural expectations set by your chosen digital space. I've provided an example of a previous student work, and annotated this assignment sheet as examples.

Overall, everyone's final product will look different, as its formatting will depend on the particular culture to which you choose to contribute. A Wiki contribution, for example, might include a strategy guide, and would likely have images and links embedded within the text. A Facebook group, on the other hand, would most likely consist of multiple short posts, usually with images and/or gifs to grab people's attention. *So long as you can explain your choices and base them on other contributions within your same culture, what you choose to include and focus on is ultimately up to you, but you should aim for* **at least 500 words and 5 annotations.**

In addition to the final product, your submission must also include an annotated rationale with links to examples as evidence of your writing and design choices. How you decide to notate these annotations is up to you, but you are welcome to use either an annotation software (very useful if you're posting your contribution online) or the "Comment" feature on a Word Document. **If at any point you are working on a draft and unsure if it meets my expectations, feel free to set up a Zoom meeting with me.**

Resources/Examples

Contribution Example: https://phantasystar.fandom.com/wiki/Auxiliary
Annotations Example: https://hyp.is/go?url=https%3A%2F%2Fphantasystar.fandom.com%2Fwiki%2FAuxiliary&group=__world__
Annotation Software: (must use Google Chrome for extension): https://web.hypothes.is/

Due: Sunday 10/11 by 11:59 PM via Slack Direct Messaging

Please submit as either a URL to your annotated page, or as a Word Document/link to a Google Doc with comments attached.