

Media Literacy Assignment

Part I: Keep a Media / Mental Environment Diary

Keep a media diary over a 24 hour period. Your media diary must record the following:

- What different types of media do you consume? (For example: How many times do you check your phone? How many minutes are you on Snapchat? What do you see on TV? Etc, etc.)
- What different messages do you receive through media you consume? Create a way to log this. (For example: How many images or mentions of appearance? How much information about violence? How often do you hear from people like you? Etc, etc.)
- (I'll give you time for this part in class before you submit.) Write 250 words about your findings. What did you expect to find? Did your findings match your expectations? What did you notice? What surprised you?

Part II: Become an Informed Media Consumer

Section I: Theory

[Frontline: Merchants of Cool](#) (1 hour show)

[Manufacturing Consent](#) by Noam Chomsky (9:00 video. Full film [here](#).)

[Text Excerpt from Manufacturing Consent](#) by Noam Chomsky (goes with video above)

[The New Media Monopoly](#) by Ben Bagdikian (excerpts)

[Amusing Ourselves to Death](#) by Neil Postman (29 minute video)

[Amusing Ourselves to Death](#) by Neil Postman (PDF of book -- not a perfect copy)

Section 2: More Theory!

[TED Talk: Beware Online "Filter Bubbles"](#)

[TED Talk: How the News Distorts Our Worldview](#)

[Sacked by the Media Blitz](#)

[Paris' Voiceless Find a Megaphone Online](#)

[The Politics of Distraction](#)

Section 3: Media Criticism Organizations:

[The Critical Media Project](#)

[Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting](#)

[Media Research Center](#) and [Newsbusters](#)

[Media Matters](#)

Alternative Media (we need to figure out how to define this):

[YES! Magazine](#)

[Solutions Journalism](#)

Soon to be in this list: The work we do!

III Create Your Own Meaning: Design Your Own Learning

This is going to be both fun and challenging. Information to come...