Essay #1: Report

INFORMATIVE REPORT ESSAY

English 101 – Sections 001 & 006

Professor Oster, Spring 2012

On Reports

You will find background information on the report genre in your textbook, *How to Write Anything*. Keep this essay assignment in mind as you read the section on reports, and be sure to make note of information in the reading that will help you write a successful essay.

The Assignment

The informative report essay is an opportunity for you to demonstrate your ability to develop a clear summary of important concepts and ideas, and to communicate how these concepts relate to each other and to a larger cultural issue.

Essay Topic: Social Media and the Individual

For this essay, you will choose one current social media trend (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, blogging, texting, etc.) and report on how this social media is changing people's lives. Your report can focus on any one change you find worth discussing: friendships, self-identity, romantic relationships, physical behavior, etc. Keep in mind that this is a relatively short essay, so you must narrow your focus in on a topic that can be adequately explored in your essay.

Essay Purpose & Audience

The purpose of this essay is to explain the connection between social media and the effect it is currently having on people's lives. This is an informative essay, and should be written objectively, and in the third person point-of-view. Your audience consists of adults who are affected by the social media you choose to discuss.

Essay Requirements

Your essay should be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, and in 12-point font (Garamond or Times New Roman *only*). MLA format. 950 to 1200 words.
You should cite at least one outside source in this essay.

Essay Proposal

In your proposal for this essay, identify:

- The social media trend you plan to explore
- The effect this social media has on people's lives
- Your proposed audience
- A brief (one paragraph) explanation of why you believe this is a topic worthy of discussion.