ENC 1101-33

Essay Two

Visual Analysis

Our first essay taught you that every text has an argument. This essay will build on that by further investigating our broader definition of what constitutes a “text.” You will analyze the argument of a visual image of your choosing (no ads, please). As you do so, consider the vocabulary for visual analysis we've established:

* Placement
* Number
* Gaze
* Color / Shading
* Lines
* Background / Foreground
* Context
* Written text

To get started, it may help you to ask a series of questions regarding the items above. If you're lacking questions, refer to the list you got from your classmates for ideas. Don't just go down the above list. Instead, figure out which points of discussion are most relevant to the image you picked. You can defend those choices in your self-assessment. Remember, you can't just state the image's argument; you must also analyze it by discussing the significance of its composition.

Additionally, I'd like you to have a single outside source for this essay—no more or less. I'd also like for it to be non-scholarly sources (blogs, credible websites, newspapers, magazines, etc. – No library books, textbooks, or scholarly journals). We'll discuss source credibility in class, but for now, think about where you need to look for sources relevant to your essay's subject.

The other important parts of this essay are its tone and the way you enact a conversation with your secondary source. Do your image and source require a serious academic tone, or are they suitable to something more playful? We'll discuss this more in class, but you should be thinking about it throughout this writing process.

For your self-assessment, I'd like to hear your impressions of the genre of the assignment. Have you ever written a visual analysis before? How was this essay different from those you've written for English classes in the past? How did writing this essay effect how you look at the visuals you're surrounded by every day? What kinds of things jump out at you now that maybe didn't before? Why do you think that is?

**Important Dates:**

Friday 7/15: 500-word SFD due. Post to Bb as Journal 9.

Tuesday 7/19: Draft two due in class (750 words, hard copy).

Thursday 7/ 21: Draft three due in class (1000 words). Bring a hard copy for peer review and your laptops to draft in class.

**Final, 1200-1500 word draft due TBD**

**Please turn in a copy of your image (color if at all possible) and a correctly formatted Works Cited Page with your final draft.**

\*\* Note that there are no conferences scheduled for this unit. If you wish to conference with me, let me know after class or email for an appointment. Remember that my office hours are 10-11 M-W.