

WP1: Exploring Your Online Identity

For this assignment, you'll be asked to look at the various identities that you project online and draw a conclusion about your online "self" from your research. For this assignment you will:

- Look at various places where you spend time online. This could include a wide variety of places: email programs, social networking sites, educational sites (such as Blackboard), forums, chat programs, aggregators, video game communities, and so on. Also consider places that you *don't* spend time online and why (particularly if you don't spend a lot of time online in general).
- Analyze your activity on those sites. What do you do? With whom do you interact? What kind of interactions do you have?
- Based on your observations of your own online activity you will need to **draw a unique or surprising claim about your online identity**. Who are you online? What sort of image of yourself are you projecting?
- To support your claim about your online identity, you will need to have several sources. These sources can be quotes from things that you've said online, screen captures of your profiles or activity, or links showing your activity. The points that you make must all be supported by some sort of **tangible evidence** from your activity online.

Minimum Length: 1,300 words.

Audience: The instructor and your peers within the class.

Additional requirements: All drafts must be typed, double-spaced, and in Times New Roman 12-point font. Please use 1-inch margins. All documents must be accessible through Microsoft Word (please use .doc or .docx format). Please name all attached files using your own name (i.e. RyanShepherdWP1.doc).

Your assignment will be graded on the following:

- **Clarity and Depth of Claim:** The claim that you make about your online identity is clear, explicitly stated, and unique or surprising.
- **Focus on Your Online Identity:** Your online identity is the clear focus of the paper. You do not go off on unrelated tangents or write about things that do not help support your central claim.
- **Adequate Support for Your Claim:** You have used evidence to support your central claim, be it in the form of quotes, screen captures, links, or other viable evidence. This evidence clearly helps to make your central claim stronger. You take time to explain how this evidence supports your claim.
- **Content Organization:** You have organized the content of your paper in a reasonable way. Your information is easy to understand, and your points are easy to follow. There is both an introduction and a conclusion. The paper clearly presents a central claim, and the content is organized around that claim. Paragraphs are ordered in such a way that they cannot be reordered at random, but instead provide logical transitions between ideas.

- **Attention to Assignment:** You adhere to the assignment as presented above, including main objectives, word count, attention to audience, and the additional requirements. You clearly understand what the assignment is asking you to do and are attempting to do it.
- **Manuscript preparation:** You have made changes between drafts that reflect attention to both instructor and peer comments. You have made an effort to improve your paper.

First drafts are due on **September 1 by 10 pm**

Revised drafts are due on **September 11 by 10 pm**

Final drafts are due on **September 20 by 10 pm**

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