



## Week 3b: Social Media (Friday, March 30)



### Reading: "Teaching with Wikis" and Wikipedia Tutorial

For the second half of our social media week, we'll be focusing on wikis. The first reading, "Teaching with Wikis," gives an overview of what a wiki is and how/why they might be used to teach writing. The second reading is much more flexible. I've linked to the official Wikipedia tutorial in our reading folder. Please read through what you'd like to (notice the tabs along the top) to understand how to edit Wikipedia pages, but also consider searching YouTube videos or blogs to get tips about Wikipedia. The important thing is to have a basic understanding of what happens behind the scenes to edit a Wikipedia page.

The readings are available in "Materials" to the left or by following [this link](#).



### Join Wikipedia!

I'd also like you to join Wikipedia by following [this link](#). After you've joined, you'll get a set of suggestions for editing pages. Check it out! Edit at least one page. It doesn't have to be a big edit: you can correct some grammar or typos, you can reword a sentence or two, you can add in some content in an area that you know a lot about, or you can do some research and build your own article (which is a high bar). Take whatever you're comfortable with and try to go just beyond that :)



### Week 3b Discussions

This time around, let's focus the discussion around wikis. What did you learn about them from the reading and your participation? As usual, you're welcome to comment on anything from the readings (and activity), but if you're having a hard time getting started, consider the following question:

- What is a wiki? How is your idea of a wiki different now than when you started the readings for this week?
- What has been your stance toward wikipedia in the classroom in the past? How (if at all) has your reading and your experiences this week changed your stance?
- What do you see as the main benefits of learning to edit wikis from the reading and your experience?
- What do you see as the main drawbacks of the wiki format? How might this be improved?
- What Wikipedia article did you edit? What changes did you make? What did you learn from the experience?

As usual, don't forget to respond to at least one other person's post.



### Space Critique Assignment

Your first major assignment for the semester is the "space critique." For this assignment, I'll ask you to choose a digital space that you regularly use or would like to learn more about. The space you choose must be multimodal, active, and social. Good examples of spaces might be social network sites, subreddits, online forums, chat apps, etc. Based on what we will have read in class to that point, I'd like you to critique the space, including (but not limited to) an exploration of

- Modes of communication: How do people in the space communicate with one another? What modes of communication (including alphabetic text, audio, video, images, gestures, and so on) are used by people in this space? How are different modes used to communicate differently?
- Affordances and constraints: In what ways does this space allow for certain ways of doing, thinking, and being? In what ways does it limit ways of doing, thinking, or being? Try to think critically about this and dig beyond obvious affordances and constraints to real social structures within the space.
- Discourse systems used: What specialized discourse is used within the space? How might specialized language, images, gestures, etc. be used in a way that's difficult to understand for an outsider and may lead to misinterpretation?
- Social structure: How is the space structured socially? Who has control over users? How is this control exercised? What rules are in place? How flexible are these rules? How closely do individual users interact with one another?
- Collaboration: What systems of collaboration are in place within the space? How do users co-create content, give feedback on content, or critique content?

Your critique will be provided to me in Google Drive and should include images, links, audio, and/or video in addition to alphabetic text. I suggest using (at minimum) screen captures of the actual usage within the space and links to real posts or content. If you don't know how to take screen captures on your device, just google the type of device you have and screen capture (e.g. "Android screen capture" or "iPhone X screen capture.")

When incorporating content, please follow these three simple guidelines:

- Does the multimodal content add to the critique? If the answer is no, find different content. For example, let's say you're critiquing Twitter. What does the Twitter logo add to the critique? Not very much. However, a screen capture of a tweet that represents a point about the social structure can add quite a bit.
- Is the multimodal content placed strategically within the critique? Think carefully about where you are placing the content, as you would with a paragraph you've written. Be sure the multimodal content is located near written content that is relevant. For example, if you're showing a screen capture of a tweet that represents a point about social structure, place that screen capture in the paragraph in which you've written about social structure.
- Is the multimodal content referenced in the written text? Your reader should know not only when to look at the content but also what you want them to look for. Clearly refer to multimodal content in the written content. Explain clearly what you want the reader to see and why.

To add images to a Google Doc, simply drag the image into the document. It should show up automatically.

Your critique should be written entirely in Google Drive and shared with me (RPShepherd@gmail.com) when you have completed it. If you are unfamiliar with Google Drive, please watch the video below about creating and sharing documents.

Space Critiques must be a minimum of 1500 words. First drafts are due on Tuesday, April 3, and final drafts are due on Friday, April 6. Both drafts should be complete.

Final drafts of Space Critiques will be graded on meeting or exceeding the following criteria:

	Exceeded	Met
Understanding of Space	You have thoroughly explored the space and are an expert in navigating and using features.	You have explored the space and understand how and use features.
Exploration of Modes Used	You explain the modes used in the space to communicate and have an expert understanding of why certain modes are used and when they are likely to be used.	You explain the primary modes used in the space to communicate and explain why certain modes are used in different contexts.
Exploration of Affordances and Constraints	You explore what the space allows and does not allow users to do, be, and think within the space. You go beyond obvious affordances and constraints.	You explore what the space allows and does not allow users to do in the space.
Exploration of Discourse	You have explored the Discourse of the space, offering specific examples of Discourse in use that outsiders might find difficult to understand.	You have explored the Discourse of the space, especially looking at ways of making meaning that are not obvious to outsiders.
Exploration of Social Structure	You offer a detailed explanation of the social structure of the space. You explain who controls the space, how control is exercised, and what this means for users of the space.	You explain the social structure of the space. In particular, you explain who controls the space and how the control is exercised.
Exploration of Collaboration	You have found detailed and unique examples of collaboration. You have explained what those examples mean for users of the space.	You have explored how users collaborate, even if the collaboration is minimal. You have explained how users co-create and give feedback, offer critiques, and so on.
Use of Appropriate Multimodal Content	You have used multimodal content to enhance your points. At minimum, you have included five links to and/or images of specific content in the space.	You have used multimodal content that adds to the critique. At minimum, you have included three and/or images of specific content in the space.
Organization	You have organized your points in a way that enhances the meaning. Multimodal content is placed in a way that helps the reader to understand and is explained fully.	You have organized your points in a reasonable way. Multimodal content is placed appropriately and explained in the written text.
Manuscript Preparation	You have exceeded guidelines and have successfully responded to your peers' feedback.	You have followed the guidelines of the assignment and responded to your peers' feedback.

Grades are based on the following scale:

- A: You have exceeded expectations for five or more of the grading criteria.
- A-: You have exceeded expectations for two to four of the grading criteria.
- B+: You have met expectations for all grading criteria.
- B: You have not met expectations for one to two of the grading criteria.
- B-: You have not met expectations for three or more of the grading criteria.



Space Critique

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ENG 5900 06 Space Critique



Google Drive

07 - Google Drive




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**Extra Note: Send me your Gmail address**

After you've created a Google account, you'll have a gmail address associated with your Google Drive account. To find this, click on the circular icon in the upper right-hand corner of Google Drive. Send me an email with that Gmail address so I know what address you'll be using for Google Drive. I will add you to my address book and use this address to share your papers with your peers.

**Space Critique and Google Drive Questions**

Post any questions you may have about the Space Critique assignment or using Google Drive here. I encourage you to post any questions you may have and to read your peers' questions.

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