

Exam II

This essay exam asks you to generate & assume a position of expertise in relationship to the material of the class and the semester. It has two parts; you must select one of the questions from each part. In direct response to the first part, write a thoughtful, well-reasoned, thesis-based essay that brings together your understanding of the texts we've read, the material of the semester, and your own digital experience. Your aim is to demonstrate a familiarity with the texts and a command of the issues. In response to the second part, construct an annotated bibliography that supports, extends, and assesses your work in the first part.

Part I

1. Argue that gaming constitutes an act of literate culture in the digital arena of the 21st century. In order to do this, you must generate three key features of gaming that emphasize the abilities of games to go beyond the obvious area of entertainment, and gesture toward *culture*. What is it about games and the play of games that is more significant than a mere pastime? Your raw material in advancing this argument are the texts we've read & the technologies we've covered. By connecting your ideas to the material we've read and discussed, demonstrate your expertise on gaming as an aspect of human culture.
2. Argue that digital technologies for writing fundamentally alter and transform the nature of writing in the 21st century in three powerful ways that distinguish writing in the 21st century from its predecessors. Use the reading materials, class discussions, and technologies we discussed to advance your point.

Part II

Using your thesis from the essay you develop in Part I to develop an annotated bibliography of critical, academic sources (journal articles published in the last 15 years). Your annotations should draw attention to the relative merits of each source and relate that source to your own argument. Plan on 5-10 sentences for each source, beginning with a full and proper citation (use Zotero if you need assistance), a few sentences that summarize the points of the source, and a few sentences that evaluate the source in relation to your own points.

You must submit one essay, as a composition between 750 and 1500 words. Your essays will be judged as in-class written exams, despite the out-of-class assignment. Because this is an open book assignment, I will not be impressed by your ability to remember and quote sources; rather, I will be impressed by your ability to synthesize and interpret the material of the semester.

I will be available for consultations use ! Use <http://meetme.so/rcream> to schedule a meeting.

Late exams will receive an F at best. Your exam must be submitted on D2L by 3pm on Dec 12.