WR 121 Evaluation Essay

Self-Evaluation

Comment (in 2-3 sentences for each) on the process of designing your evaluation MM project.

1. Choosing a topic:

I think this was probably the hardest part because writing dry information only material really isn’t an area I excel at. The problem was that almost any topic I thought of either became too broad to quickly or wasn’t a standard review, rather a persuasive takedown of an opposing idea. Ultimately, I settled on this movie because as an impoverished child from a single parent home who’s dealt with mental illness and addiction problems my whole life I’ve never really understood the disdain I get for being a straight white male. Movies are traditionally easy to review because they provide a bite sized package to break down. So, I chose this one.

1. Finding sources:

I spend a significant amount of time in online spaces. This movie, and the response it got, were big news amongst the classic liberal/anti-sjw crowd when it came out and I’ve seen it a couple times, so I was familiar with the topic. When it was released there were lots of articles on it, so they were easy to find online.

1. Drafting and peer review:

I mean, what’s there to say really? I thought about a website, but the cost benefit ratio was bad. I tried word, but it didn’t have the features I needed. So I went to PowerPoint and it worked fine. From there it’s just lots of work to say what you want to say in the confines of the box the assignment puts you in. I’m not a huge fan of peer review simply because I’m introverted to the point of being anti-social.

1. Revision and editing:

Because of the nature of this assignment I started by re-watching the movie and collecting/creating video’s and images of what I thought I might need. Then I just started putting pieces together until I felt it was complete. I didn’t really have a clear vision of what I wanted this project to become so it just kind a gets built a block at a time.

1. Best part/Worst part:

It makes me happy that I can bring this movie to at least one more person attention. Because the topics are so taboo, and politics is so polarized and vicious now, of the dozen or so people I’ve asked to watch it exactly 0 have. All friends and family. This just seems to be one of those subjects’ people already have their mind made up on.

The worst part was searching for specific information online for the project. The amount of bias and vitriol people post online sucks. Anonymity and the Dunning-Krueger effect is a nasty cocktail by itself but adding the openly tribal virtue-signaling and “like” culture makes discussing virtually any topic a herculean task. Our brains can’t really disconnect anonymous criticism like that (without effort) from criticism directed at us, so it just feels bad to read all of it I guess.