To: Professor Toomey, Instructor of ENGL 382: Advanced Technical Writing II

From: Jackie Lutz, Student

Subject: A Report on the Feasibility of Writing a Research Paper on the Topic of AI and Dystopia

Date: March 23rd, 2023

Purpose:

The purpose of this memo is to report the feasibility of writing a research paper on the topic of how people view and react to AI and dystopia.

Summary:

This memo describes my plan for my research paper. The background section describes the history The background/discussion section describes my initial thoughts about the topic, and what my plan is for research. I included a project timeline to help keep me on track with research, reading, drafting, and writing. I will be able to complete the research paper by the due date, and it will be submitted on May 24th, 2023 by 4pm. The final deliverable will be a ~3,000 word research paper submitted on Google Classroom.

Background/Discussion:

I plan to study how AI technology has evolved over time, and how people may view it as dystopian. Some people are afraid of the future, and some are excited. I want to explore how AI technology has affected our daily lives, and how people predict that they will affect us in the future.

People are drawn to dystopian media. Oftentimes, this media will include evil AI that wants to destroy humanity for various reasons. I want to find out why this is included so often.

Maybe people are afraid of the future, and also fascinated by it at the same time? I want to research these questions.

I will need to research:

- The history of AI technology.
- ==The book *Where's My Jetpack?* By Daniel H. Wilson==
- The history of dystopian fiction, and how it has affected society.
- History of how humans in the past guessed what the future would be like.
- Psychology of how people think about the future.
- Why are people drawn to dystopian media?

==To research this, I will access databases and articles about the topics of dystopia, AI, and how human society 'predicts' the future. I want to explore how people react to possible dystopian futures.==

I will start with the history of AI technology. I'm not too familiar with this, so I will need to get a general idea of how AI technology has evolved over time. I would also like to research how people have reacted to said technology. Were they afraid of it? Or were they excited for the future? I am guessing that it will be a mix of both, and that media is the reason why.

A resource that I have for this project is another class that I am taking this semester. I'm taking ENG 494DI: Dystopian Games, Comics, and Media. We discuss topics relating to dystopia in our class. We have already talked a lot about the Matrix, which has elements of AI and how society is affected by it in a dystopian world. I feel like this class will be a great resource for gathering ideas and discussing topics, since it is a team based course.

I also would like to explore the psychology of how people think about the future. It is exciting yet scary to consider what life will be like in ten, twenty, or even fifty years. I want to see how people deal with the possibilities of the future, and how people reflect on the past once they reach the future. AI seems to have affected how people predict the future. People predict that AI may take over jobs, and will make our lives easier or harder. There are a lot of different opinions which I would like to explore.

Project Timeline

Task	Due Date
Feasibility Study	3/23/23
General Outline + Research Completed	4/6/23
Draft #1	4/19/23
Finish reading *Where's My Jetpack?*	4/27/23
Project Presentation Day	5/2/23
Draft #2	5/17/23
Research Paper Due	5/24/23

Conclusion:

The research paper will be able to be carried out by the assigned due date. I laid out my timeline in a way that is doable for me, and I plan on following it. My plan going forward is to start my research, and learn more about how people view AI and dystopian futures. The final deliverable will be a ~3,000 word paper submitted on Google Classroom. I believe that I will be able to complete this research paper within the deadlines that I have provided for myself.