

The Creative Media & Digital Culture Program
Washington State University Vancouver
DTC 476 Digital Literacies (Senior Seminar)

Self-Reflective Essay

Write a strong and complete response to each of the ten CMDC learning goals detailed below.

NOTE: These same goals are also included in your syllabus, and are available online at

http://www.dtc-wsuv.org/cmdc/goals_objectives.doc

One strategy is to start at the top of the list, address each goal, and then move on to the next, until finished. With each goal, address each objective for that goal. One at a time, think about the objective and your experience achieving it through one or more courses. Once you have written about each objective, you should be able to understand how you achieved the particular goal to which they apply.

For each learning goal, write, in detail, about what you have learned, how you have learned the skill(s) associated with each goal, and how you have put your learning into effect. Your reflection is not limited to this course, or even this semester. It would be best if you think about your entire tenure in the CMDC program so far. Each course you have taken is associated with a particular program goal; some to more than one. I am looking for depth, engagement, proof of your learning (by that I mean specific examples drawn from your research, your class projects, etc), and evidence of your engagement with the program and each of these ten goals. I expect depth and evidence to support any and all claims you make.

As for format, provide each goal as a subheading, then follow it with your reflections regarding each objective of that goal. When finished with each reflection, skip a line, note the next learning goal, and then begin your next reflection. No other special formatting is required, other than a legible type face and a font size no larger than 12.

As for length, I do not believe one paragraph per learning goal or objective will demonstrate the depth of your learning or engagement, unless you have nothing to say. Instead, think about dealing with each learning goal and its objectives completely before moving on to the next. Length will determine itself. Write for content, for demonstration of your knowledge.

Remember, the exemplary student, in seeking to demonstrate outstanding achievement in this course, will demonstrate competency in each of these program goals. This assignment is not about creativity, or cuteness, but rather you demonstrating your command of a body of knowledge. Errors will deduct from your assessment so bring your best writing to this assignment.

Submit your finished essay as instructed. There is no opportunity for this assignment to be submitted late, so plan ahead.

	Goals & Objectives	Course(s)
Goal 1	Demonstrate competency with computers for designing, distributing, retrieving, and preserving digital works in various mediums for humane and effective human-computer interactions A. Produce web pages and other digital interfaces and/or environments for effective and functional human-computer interactions B. Apply Extensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML) and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) to hand-code web pages C. Employ web and other digital interfaces and/or environments that respond to specific audience needs, as well as usability and accessibility issues D. Raise awareness of Fair Use and privacy and intellectual property issues as	DTC 336 DTC 338 DTC 355 DTC 476

	they apply to media objects	
Goal 2	<p>Synthesize media forms for multimedia contexts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Organize multimedia for web pages and other digital interfaces and/or environments using various graphics, sound, and video authoring tools B. Develop a multimedia project that incorporates various media objects, such as video, animation, sound, and still images 	<p>DTC 338 DTC 355 DTC 476 DTC 477</p>
Goal 3	<p>Employ the principles of visual form for sophisticated image manipulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Practice visual fundamentals such as composition, figure/ground relationships, rhythm, contrast, and color. B. Study, create, and critique the photographic image and its central role in visual culture. C. Create and compare print and screen based media, using image manipulation and other content software and digital output. D. Create and arrange images and other content in sequence, in grid structures, and in non-linear form, demonstrating the conceptual underpinnings of the digital image. E. Utilize textual content as visual rhetoric in the process of designing interactive media interfaces that are both functional and usable 	<p>DTC 336 DTC 338 DTC 476</p>
Goal 4	<p>Understand the production and assessment of media objects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Understand basics of front end design as well as composition strategies for digital texts and environments B. Demonstrate an overall understanding and utilization of appropriate textual content for various forms of interactive media C. Produce and evaluate effective textual content that promotes interaction, functionality, and usability by different readers and needs 	<p>DTC 336 DTC 338 DTC 476 DTC 478</p>
Goal 5	<p>Identify and explain key principles of information architecture, effectively manage knowledge for both information retrieval and archival purposes, and evaluate and choose appropriate information architecture and knowledge management strategies for a given situation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Examine the structure and culture of the disciplines, publishing cycles, and information flows control access to information. B. Demonstrate an understanding of how storage and retrieval systems control what information can be found. C. Use a variety of advanced techniques, such as Boolean searching, subject/descriptor searching, truncation, and proximity, to retrieve information effectively from a variety of electronic information retrieval systems, like subscription databases and the Web. D. Understand the use of language and vocabulary in information retrieval by exploring thesauri, indexes, concordances, and keyword-matching, as well as demonstrate comprehension of the differences, uses, and strengths of these various ways of using language to retrieve electronic information 	<p>DTC 356 DTC 476</p>
Goal 6	<p>Question the way digital media functions in multiple cultural contexts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Examine the presentation of race, class, gender, and disabilities in digital media B. Interpret images found on the web from a cultural context different from your own 	<p>DTC 475 DTC 476</p>

Goal 7	<p>Recognize various forms of language processing and their implications for media authoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Use digital media terminology and concepts, such as medium, media, multimedia, mass media, remediation, repurposing, translation, text, textuality, language, and code, appropriately in presentations and projects B. Employ various types of texts, such as visual, auditory, kinetic, and kinesthetic texts, for appropriate mediums C. Illustrate the way artificial systems acquire language D. Demonstrate knowledge about the process by which is language is made via computers E. Study, create, and critique digital text and its central role in human-computer interactions F. Employ textual content in web pages and other digital interfaces or environments that respond to specific audience needs 	<p>DTC 336 DTC 338 DTC 354 DTC 375 DTC 476</p>
Goal 8	<p>Appreciate the history of technological development, from local to global perspectives, and its implications for a variety of mediums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Demonstrate understanding between digital and analog technologies B. Compare and contrast technological development from a historical perspective C. Explain contributions of pioneers working in the US and beyond in the area of digital technology D. Discuss technologies of oral and written discourse, such as the importance of memory, the development of alphabets, invention of writing tools, and innovations for electronic devices E. Examine the way in which metaphors from print culture influence electronic information retrieval systems 	<p>DTC 375 DTC 476</p>
Goal 9	<p>Utilize an interdisciplinary perspective in order to understand the basics of social, economic, and education changes brought about by digital media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Demonstrate knowledge of “digital divide” by explaining the various factors leading to it in the US and beyond B. Sketch an activity, program, or event that aims to assist marginalized populations with gaining access and understanding of digital media C. Write a cultural critique of media objects that looks at political economy, content, and audience reception of media objects D. Discuss “authority,” and the way information is and has been validated; interrogate the role of culture and technology in determining the validity and authority of information. E. Note the way in which public policies impact access to information. F. Create, and use information ethically G. Engage with local and regional communities 	<p>DTC 475 DTC 476</p>
Goal 10	<p>Be practiced and capable communicators in all mediums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Create a digital text in a variety of mediums B. Construct and deliver an argument focusing on the way the medium affects the message, audience, and other rhetorical components C. Evaluate the effective use of language in a digital text 	<p>DTC 375 DTC 354 DTC 475 DTC 476</p>