

Proposal

In Week 13 (T Nov. 18), you should write and turn in a one-page, single-spaced proposal for your final argument.

Basic Format:

1. Summary

Write one short paragraph (250 words) on your genre (artist, album, song, video, etc.). Give some basic historical and/or informational background.

2. Main Claim

State in one sentence what your main argument or thesis about this genre will be. Use the five types of claims—fact, definition, cause/effect, value, policy—as an inventional jumping off point.

3. Critical Approaches

Discuss briefly the critical approaches you will use to develop this claim—musicology, rhetoric, worlding, documentary, reader response, sub/fan culture, gender, race, industry, technology, geography, and mediation (or use the more literary terms discussed in the "critical approaches" essay if they seem more applicable to your purpose). Explain in a sentence or two your understanding of each approach you will use (or at least the 2-3 primary ones).

4. Application

Write one short paragraph (250 words) on how this critical approach will help you understand the genre and help you support the main claim. Follow the examples in the "critical approaches" essay and produce a brief initial reading using the main approach(es).

5. Works Cited

Include an initial Works Cited with what you have so far. Include the categories: academic articles, web sources, primary texts (albums, videos, documentaries).

Notes: It is important to understand this assignment as an "inventional" document. Use it to get some ideas down on paper. The important thing is to simply do it and move your thinking process one step further.

Grading: This document will count as 5 participation points, not as a major grade.