**Fall Semester, 2016**

**Instructor: Matt Paczkowski**

Your Second Assignment:
An Exploratory Essay

(Chapter 12: Reporting Information: pp. 145-155

Sample Exploratory Essays: pp. 129-144)

**The Assignment:** For your second paper, you will have to engage in outside research. Working with the topic you’ve chosen in Professor Cross’s section, you will find **at least three sources** (no more than five) that extend your thinking on your selected topic. *You should find at least two of these sources through the CCNY virtual library* using the methodology covered in our library visit. Remember that experts have evaluated most of the information you find through the academic databases; in fact, these databases will be used throughout your academic career at CCNY, so it is critical that you learn how to navigate them effectively.

Your goal is to compose a 4-5 page Exploratory Essay, which incorporates the outside research that will eventually be reflected in your Researched Critical Analysis Essay (your third essay). To succeed, your Exploratory Essay should encapsulate the main idea and supporting facts of each selected article and communicate these details clearly to your audience. You’ll want to keep this essay objective by omitting your opinion on the articles; you will have the opportunity to argue a position in your Critical Analysis Essay. You can – and should – use in-text quotations (sparingly) and paraphrasing to back up your Exploratory Essay with evidence. All quotes **must** adhere to proper MLA formatting (see the handouts, class notes, and Chapter 52 [pp. 500-548] in your textbook).

**Grading:** This paper is worth 15% of your grade. A rubric and peer edit packet will be provided with more detailed expectations.

**Formatting:** Your Exploratory Essay must be 4-5 pages in length, 12-point font, and double-spaced. Include a proper header with your name, my name (Matt Paczkowski), the class/section number (FIQWS 10115-CP7), and the date. Be sure to give your work an original title. **You will be graded on MLA formatting.**

**Due Dates:** Your first draft is due next **Monday, October 24th.** During that class session, we will be peer-editing each other’s papers, so if you come to class without your paper on the 24th, you will miss out on valuable feedback and will be marked absent for the class session. Your final, revised papers will be due the following class session, on **Wednesday, October 26th** with a 1-2 page Self-Reflection Essay.

Note: If you are absent on the 26th, you **must** email me your paper during the class session (paczkowskimatt@gmail.com). If I do not receive your paper on the due date, you will lose five points (half a letter grade).