

Seminar in Academic Writing: Empathy & Activism

Essay 2: Frame & Case Essay

In this composition, you will find and draw upon additional research on activism to examine how our course concepts of empathy and activism are utilized in one specific site of change, such as a text, movement, or organization. Srikanth, Martin, Hanson, and Fontaine's works will help you create a framework of empathy through which you will examine your site of change as a case study. Looking at one specific case study will enable you to extend a larger argument about activism overall.

To do this, you will need to select your initial site of resistance and research how those involved with it have engaged in activism. You will then research additional scholarly studies of activism or about site of change with a focus that helps you analyze your specific text, movement, or organization. Your research will help you learn more about the objectives and issues surrounding activism as well as refine and redirect class conversation. You will then analyze and question how your site of resistance engages in a social movement. How do their actions reflect some of the larger concerns we have about activism, empathy, and the goals we place on them? How are they working as allies or advocates/accomplices? How might you or others critique them?

Note: I encourage you to use a site of change that is involved in the same topic as your **Social Engagement Project**.

Students will

- Identify & learn about a specific artifact/site of resistance
- Engage in research on the scholarly conversation surrounding activism
- Read and engage with one scholarly text focusing on an issue related to activism
- Use their archive of knowledge about activism and empathy to analyze how their site of resistance engages in a social movement

Follow MLA 8th edition conventions:

- Size 12 point, black, Times New Roman font,
- Double-spaced,
- 1-inch margins,
- Headers with last name & page number, and

- In-text/parenthetical citations along with a separate Works Cited page.

Part	Tasks	Mechanics	Due
A	Using our class texts on activism as a frame, offer a close reading and analysis of a small part of your site of change (think either one scene, event, or max 2-3 paragraphs). What would scholars of activism focus on in this site? What might they say about it?	500-600 words	Tues., 3/5
B	Create a visual representation, or map, of your research into your site of change so far, showing connections between each. Write a brief note with each connection that explains how you see these concepts relating to one another and what they're adding to your understanding of the site of change. (Please submit a .jpg, .png, or .pdf image of the map.)	At least 5 sources	Thurs., 3/7
C	First full draft of essay due.	~1,000 words	Thurs., 3/12
	Writing group peer review letters due. Write a short letter to each member of your writing group in which you respond to their essay, following the Peer Review Guidelines here .	100-250 words for each essay	Thurs., 3/28
D	Revised full draft of essay due.	~2,000-2,500 words	Sat., 3/30

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