

Portfolio Component #1: Community Profile

ENG 113
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WHAT IS A PROFILE?

In this assignment, I ask you to write a profile of the community in which you are doing your research. A profile is a brief sketch that gives the reader necessary information to form a basic knowledge of the topic. A successful profile provides the reader with interesting and perhaps, previously unknown information. Think of your profile as the Wikipedia page for your community. It's to help people who don't know you or your community to learn about the community.

Your profile will serve two purposes. First, it will give you a starting point for your research. Second, it will give you practice thinking about, analyzing observing, and describing a community you are part of, leading to a deeper understanding of that community.

THE ASSIGNMENT

Your 3-4 page profile should provide a picture of your community for someone who is an outsider to that community. It needs to provide description of the following:

- Who is in the community?
- How does one become a member?
- Where does the community exist?
- What are the community's typical activities?
- What makes it unique from other communities?
- What are your roles in the community?

Your profile must also identify how you fit in your community.

- What is your interest in doing research in this community?
- What issue or problem might you investigate?
- How will you identify yourself to the community as a researcher?
- How do you see your research benefitting this community?

Organization

A profile presents a limited amount of important information. As a writer you must determine what information is most important to your audience. Keep in mind that most likely your audience members are outsiders to your community and will need you to help them understand how your community works. Additionally, a profile needs to interest the reader, both with its subject matter and its presentation of details. So as you present your information, pay attention to your language and the level of detail you use.

Your profile should include:

- A brief introduction (1 paragraph) that identifies your community and you roles within that community
- Headings and sections to organize the majority of your information (The first set of bullets above can be used to set up those sections.)
- A brief conclusion that identifies the research you plan to do and how you see it being useful to the community (This section should answer the second set of bullets.)

PORTFOLIO

This is the first component of your Research Portfolio and will describe your research participants. It will set the scene for your research. Because this is your first component, you will need to plan to revise it once you finalize your research plans and carry out your research so that it reflects your final research design.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, Feb. 6	Completed, Polished Draft due for Teacher Feedback (Moodle)
Monday, Feb. 27	REVISED Version for Workshop (Moodle)
Wednesday, Apr. 5	LAST DAY to submit revisions for Teacher Feedback (EMAIL ONLY)