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Reflection

When Logan first explained what we were to be doing for our last assignment, I can easily say that I was completely lost. Half of the ideas that he mentioned, I had never heard of before. I left the class thinking to myself, “Wow! I am literally going to get a zero on this last assignment!” I was really doubtful that I could ever make a Twitter page for something about stereotypes in Harry Potter, and then the biggest struggle I had to overcome would be making a Tumblr page. I had never even heard of a Tumblr, let alone have to make one and make it aesthetically pleasing and meet the required convention. Before we really started the project Logan had us read things like: Analyzing Visual Rhetoric, 7 Trick to Viral Marketing, SFH Lay Out Pages. I was extremely confused about “visual rhetoric” and how I was supposed to create media and digital sources that would attract audiences. As a class, we made a list of key terms that would help us ensure the success of our media, digital and paper source. I have used many of the key terms to help me create my Twitter and my Tumblr page and even my final portfolio. I felt that at the end of assignment three I really understood what I was doing and even felt that I had been extremely successful at mastering the conventions of the three sources I decided to use.

When I first made my Twitter, I did not really think that anyone would care too much about stereotypes and Harry Potter. Although I am partly correct because my Twitter page never really took off or became the least bit famous, I found many people were tweeting about stereotypes. I would type in the search bar “stereotype” so that I could then retweet it to my own Twitter page. I found many people were tweeting about how they had been stereotyped because of their race, gender or role in society. I read through some of the tweets and I found that everything I had been trying to relay to my followers and to the Twitter world was more applicable to everyday life than just Harry Potter. As I reflect back on my experience using Twitter I decided that the people of Twitter were more interesting in the fact that they were being stereotyped more than the fact that Harry Potter characters were being stereotyped. I did not really get too many followers, but I think that the people who read my tweets really understood what stereotyping can do to people. I linked my Twitter account to my Tumblr account so that when I posted something on my Tumblr, it would become a tweet and my followers could see it. I found it extremely cool that I was able to connect everything about my assignment three even though I was using very different sources.

When I first started my Tumblr I was not quite sure where it would go, or even if I was doing it correctly. I had never even heard of a Tumblr and I was extremely nervous to start it because I honestly did not think that it would take my argument or me anywhere. I can happily say that I could not have been more wrong. When I first started my page I decided to call it “Harry Potter” and underneath it would read stereotypes. I had never had to make a blog before, but as I looked around at other peoples, I found that I could change the background and use different fonts that made the entire blog look better. I could also add a picture and a little “About Me” paragraph. I decided to leave out that this was for a project just to see where this would take me. I have accumulated 14 followers, which is extremely impressive because you do not need to follow someone in order to reblog from them. Looking back on where I started and what I have done with my blog, I am beyond satisfied with what I have left to the Tumblr world and my followers. I would put pictures up of just stereotypes in our world and I would get really good responses, like reblogs, likes or even comments. I would then put pictures up of stereotypes in Harry Potter and I got the same exact reaction. I compared my experience with my Tumblr and my Twitter and I think that I was more successful with my Tumblr. I enjoyed working with the conventions of Tumblr, much to my surprise. I think that the people of Tumblr were way more welcoming with my idea of stereotypes in Harry Potter and then with stereotypes in general than the Twitter world. I think that the conventions of Tumblr call for deep ideas, whereas Twitter I find is a very superficial social media site.

Sidewalk chalk was one of the most fun aspects about assignment three because it gave me the chance to really make my research paper hands on. I walked around campus with a couple of my friends from class with chalk looking for the most populated area. I am not going to lie, it was super embarrassing writing on the sidewalk, but when I thought about what I was doing and why it no longer seemed embarrassing. I wrote different things about Harry Potter and stereotypes on the sidewalk hoping to attract as many people as possible. I am not sure if the FSU students actually looked up my Twitter or Tumblr page, but I do know that if they looked at it, it did trigger something in their brain about stereotyping. As I reflect on my chalking experience I think the most important part of the whole thing was the actually part of writing it on the sidewalk. Many people stopped to see what I was writing on the ground, which is really the only thing that I wanted the students to do.

Looking back on this entire experience I am truly grateful for assignment three and all that it taught me. I learned so much from the three genres that I picked and I think that I successfully met each convention of the genres. I gave this assignment everything that I had and I am extremely satisfied with my work.