

## Journal Prompts



To record your progress on this visual literacy expedition, we offer you six graded journal assignments. Your journal entries should demonstrate thoughtful reflection of the course readings, discussions, and activities. The entries should be written in college-level style with a clear beginning, middle, and ending. Write in complete sentences, using conventional paragraphing with clear topic sentences and concrete evidence to support your ideas. Edit for grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage.

We recommend that you draft your response in Word first to safeguard your work; then you can copy and paste your response in the journal. Below are the grading rubric and the journal prompts.

Journal Entry Expectations	
Expectations	Points Possible
The entry demonstrates critical thinking about the course topics, readings, discussions, and activities. Evidence is concrete such as examples, quotes from or references to the readings, and references to discussions and activities. Application of learning to future uses is apparent.	5
The entry demonstrates college-level writing and is on time. Deduct .5 for each problem or excessive errors.	0
	5

### To create a journal entry:

1. Click "Create Journal Entry."
2. In the "Title" box, type the name of the reflection such as "Journal Reflection #1."
3. Copy and paste your reflection from Word into the text editor.
4. If you want to continue working on the entry later, click "Save Entry as Draft."
5. If you are ready to post it for grading, click "Post Entry."
6. Follow the same steps for each new entry.

### Journal Prompts:

#### Journal #1: Reflecting on Visual Literacy in My Field

9/12/12

For the past two weeks, you have read various definitions of visual literacy and discussed it as a concept, a field, and a skill set. In this journal entry, describe the role of visual literacy in your chosen field or current job. Discuss how this role helps define

visual literacy. Compare and contrast your personal experience with visual literacy with those expressed in the readings.

### **Journal #2: Telling Stories**

9/26/12

Reflect on what you have learned concerning effective storytelling from our readings, activities, and discussions. How have these class experiences influenced your attitude toward the importance of storytelling as a teaching and learning tool? How might you use this tool in the future?

### **Journal #3: Visual Composition**

10/10/12

What new insights have you gained into composing visual messages? How do these insights relate to decoding visual messages? Consider the similarities and differences among the types of compositions we have analyzed (e.g. graphic novels, digital stories, advertisements and more)? How might you apply this knowledge in your chosen career?

### **Journal #4: Film and Learning**

10/24/12

Reflect on films or television programs that have impacted your life. Select an example and analyze how and why this motion visual impacted you. Next, extrapolate some general principles about motion visuals from your experience: how can this knowledge be applied in your teaching and learning setting?

### **Journal #5: Games, Virtual Worlds, and Animations**

11/7/12

Select one or all of the learning tools in the title of this journal prompt as your focus for this entry. Analyze what you believe, based on the readings and class discussions, are the affordances and barriers of these tools. What has been your experience with these tools?

### **Journal #6: Living a Life of Visual Literacy**

11/28/12

Reflect on your expedition this semester. Where did you begin in terms of your understanding of visual literacy? How has that understanding changed? In practical and conceptual terms, discuss what role visual literacy can now play in your life.