**English 2201 100 points**

**Multidisciplinary 10% of final grade**

**Website Analysis Report (Graduate School) rough draft**

**Length:** 1,000 + plus words

**Documentation Style:** MLA or APA, depending on your chosen field of study

**Rough Draft Workshop Due: September 19, 2014**

* Bring two typed hardcopies to class (800 plus words)
* If you do not have a rough draft of 800 words or more, you cannot thoroughly participate in the workshop and you will be considered “absent” for the day.

**Final Draft: October 3, 2014**

* One hardcopy due at start of class (1000 plus words)
* Copies of rough drafts
* Copies of prewriting activities (outlines, clustering maps, Venn diagrams, and so forth)
* **Upload to SafeAssign no later than midnight under assignment: “Web Analysis/Final”**

**Directions:** For this assignment, you will analyze the information found on two (three?) graduate school website programs that address a discipline you may be interested in exploring for graduate coursework. You will uncover similarities and differences between the two programs, highlighting the specific degrees offered, the various classes, the culture of the school and program, (the layout of the website?), and any additional information you find pertinent to the graduate school program. In short, this is a synthesis (compare/contrast) paper. The assignment should be at least 1,000 plus words, and should follow the appropriate document style appropriate for the chosen career.

* **Purpose of the assignment:** To learn about the various graduate programs offered in your discipline. You may also identify the rhetorical devices at work in the graduate school’s web literature. You may discuss the author’s manipulation of language and identify elements of argument within the literature, taking note of clear differences and similarities between the various websites.
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**Audience:** The audience for this project is your 1100 classmates. Your writing should convey and explain the differences and similarities between the graduate school programs. You should ground the readers with key background information about the discipline.

**Use of Evidence:** You are expected to use evidence from the website to support any of your claims. In short, refer to the website often as you analyze. Evidence can be integrated in your essay through direct quotations, summaries, or paraphrases. All evidence should include the proper citation.

**Possible Questions to Explore (as stated at the University of Minnesota, Career Services)**

**Questions about Admissions:**

What are the application deadlines?

What is the undergraduate GPA range and preference for this program (sometimes referred to as the middle 50%)?

If an entrance exam is required, what is the preferred test score? (for standardized tests such as the GRE, GMAT, LSAT, or MCAT)

What percentage of students who applied last year were admitted?

What additional factors most impact acceptance into this program?

What previous experience/knowledge (if any) is preferred for this program?

**Questions about the Program:**

Are there pre-requisite courses you need to complete before you start this program?

What are the degree requirements? How many required and elective classes are there?

How long do students typically take to complete this program?

What areas of concentration are available?

What percentage of students complete the entire graduate program?

How does the department evaluate student progress?

What kind of thesis and examinations are required?

What practical experience are students expected to complete?

What professional development opportunities exist for students?

What kind of licensure/certification will I be eligible for after completing the program?

What support is provided to help students fulfill experiential components of the program?

What kind of job-search support is provided by faculty?

**Questions for Program Faculty:**
What is most important to you in an advisee?

When and how is an advisor selected? How difficult is it to switch advisors once you're into your program?

How many full- and part-time faculty members teach in this department?

What diversity exists within the faculty?

What experience have the faculty had outside the academic world?

What opportunities exist to work with faculty on their research? On my own research?

**Questions for students enrolled in the program:**
*(If you can find information about students in the program, these are some questions to consider exploring.)*

How available is your advisor?

How would you characterize the departmental culture?

What is the actual time commitment for a teaching assistant or research assistant position?

Is the departmental stipend enough to live on?

How do students interact with each other inside and outside the classroom?

What are some of the politics or current issues within the department?

What diversity exists within the student body?

How much support do students receive in developing their own approach to the field?

How often do students present their work at professional conferences?

**Questions about finances and resources:**

How available are teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or fellowships?

What resources are available for students, such as graduate student housing, medical insurance, child care, fitness, etc?

Are students guaranteed funding throughout their time in the program, or is it awarded on a yearly basis?