**Blog Post #1:** What makes a excellent blog?

**Due: Sunday 9/7 by midnight**

This week we are thinking about what makes a good website. Good sites require good writing, but they also need more than just excellent writing. These other characteristics are outlined in our readings from this week and last. For your first post, I want you to take the information from our readings thus far (Rosenwasser & Stephen, Carroll, Rorabaugh, and Morris) and use their vocabulary to talk about what *you* think makes a good blog.

This post should be between 500-700 words in length and should include references to or quotations from our readings, as well as illustrative examples from the blogosphere. Feel free to draw on our class discussion, but please do not simply replicate what class discussion generates.

**How to post:**

1. Before you post, please choose your screen name for our class site.
2. Go to our website: <http://blogs.dickinson.edu/wrpg211>
3. login to the blog using your id and password (see the right sidebar for the “Login” link)
4. click on “users” in left hand menu of the dashboard
5. find your name and click on it
6. change the “nickname” field
7. scroll down and click “display name publicly” and change to "nickname"
8. Don't forget to click "Update Profile" at the bottom!
9. Compose your first post (I suggest composing it elsewhere and then pasting it into the wordpress dashboard.)
10. From the dashboard of the class blog: click “Posts” on the left hand side, then “Add New.” Write in the text box and use the buttons available such as: “Add Media,” “insert link,” and “YouTube shortcut” as well as the standard formatting keys.
11. Click “Update” on the right hand side of the dashboard to save your work. (If you want to draft without the world watching, change the “Status” from public to private by clicking the “edit” link.) Finally, don’t forget to make sure your post is “Public” and then hit “Update” to post online.

\*\*CAUTION: Take care to save your work! Wordpress is *not* the same as Windows and it does not automatically save like Word and other Windows programs.