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

**Due: 9/12/16—Posted to class blog under chosen screen name**

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, Hosey, Rorabaugh, Morris, Carroll, Turkle etc.) and use their vocabulary to talk about what *you* think makes a good blog.

This post should be between 300-500 words in length and should include references to or quotations from our readings, as well as illustrative examples from the blogosphere (in other words—use quotation and links!). 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. Screen names are important to keep your work on our class blog as anonymous to the outside world as you would like it to be.
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. From the dashboard of the class blog: click “Posts” on the left hand side, then “Add New.” Compose your first post (either in the text box, or elsewhere and then paste it in).
10. Don’t forget to make your post multimodal! Make sure to 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.