

Source Analysis

CODE 120: Research Team 1



Discussion Expectations

We will be reading about how to understand and make change within complicated systems. We'll also analyze texts, films, maps, or podcasts related to our topic. For each source we discuss in class, you will complete a source analysis sheet when you arrive in class. For students to get credit for the source analysis in their ePortfolio, they must be in class for the discussion.

Objective

To learn how to summarize and analyze the context and content of a source, and to apply what they learned in class discussion.

Context

In order to approach a source with the right perspective we need to understand some things about its background.

- Who is the source's creator and what are their credentials? What biases might they have?
- What is the source's purpose (to persuade, to educate, to entertain, to call to action?)
- Where did the source first appear? In a magazine? On a website? In a movie theater?
- What is the source's intended audience? How do you know?
- When did the source first appear? How does the moment of its creation relate to its content?

Analysis

Here are some questions/thoughts to help you think analytically. At different times, I may ask you to prioritize certain questions in the list.

- What is the creator's main claim, thesis, or argument? How do you know?
- What evidence does the source provide?
- Is the creator trying to prove anything?
- What does this source teach us?
- Consider what in the source doesn't fit or might surprise you.
- Does the source remind you of anything?

Application

- Why is this source important?
- How does the source help us understand something about our problem?
- What are the key takeaways you want to remember for later?

Due Date: _____

Name: _____

Source Analysis

Title: _____

Author: _____

Source Date: _____

Source Type: _____

Context (what is important to note about the creator, when it was created, its audience, or its format?): _____

Analysis (what important facts about the source's content should we note for our discussion): _____

Application (what is important about the source? How might it help us understand our topic?): _____
