

Genre Report Activity

Based on the discussion we have had so far regarding discourse communities and genres, construct a brief report (1-2 pages, single-spaced) that analyzes the kinds of genres that you are likely to encounter in your field of study. If it helps, you can imagine the task at hand as introducing potential university students to your field. You should provide them with an overview of the field (the discourse community) and introduce them to the kinds of writing tasks (genres) and genre conventions that they will encounter within your discipline (both as students and professionals). Be sure to include at least 2-3 genres within your analysis. Your analysis should focus on addressing the following: the features of the discourse community, the features of the genres within the discourse community, the rhetorical situation within which the genres are produced, the characteristics and needs of the audience(s).

Your report should move beyond mere summary of the genres and discourse community to evaluate the overall function. What functions do the genres serve within the discourse community, and what do these observations about functions suggest about the beliefs and values of the discourse community? Be prepared to share your report findings at the end of next week, Friday 9/4.