

GAME STUDIES ONE-SHEET

The reading and viewing material I have selected for consideration during class time has been filtered through my goals, interests and is also subject to the limited scope of my personal knowledge of the field. One counterbalance for these inescapable limitations is to have others select and share information from the archive of relevant materials. This assignment is designed to expand your awareness of what is out there on games as well as give you an opportunity to research something on your own and share your findings with the group. These “one-sheets” are *not* meant to be comprehensive summaries nor polemics (advocating or debunking), but rather concise extractions of key ideas and arguments and topical information from source works. The expressive goals of these documents are to provide others with a survey of useful material (in the context of the class) and to help them decide if they want to continue studying the selected work. The pedagogical goals are to get you to survey the scope of game studies on your own, to work on a self-selected text in some detail, and to give you the experience of being responsible for informing an interested community.

Details

These documents will be published on the course website. Follow the instructions here and use the *template* document for the final writing. The template provides short comments on the content of the one-sheet as well as directions on how to post to the website. Here’s a list of steps to follow:

1. Select a text from the "Resources" page from the links with an {*} next to them.
2. Download the one-sheet template file and read it.
3. Read your selected text carefully, taking notes, keeping in mind what the template called for.
4. Read the text a second time with your notes out, this time taking a bit more time to reflect on details. Underline key passages, especially claims or definitions, during this pass.
5. Finally, sit down with the notes and passages and focus your attention on those alone, taking some time to think about implications, applications, counterclaims, etc. Ideally, give yourself a day or two to think about the material before writing.
6. Now you are ready to compose your one-sheet. Following the reading strategy above will protect against your worst impulses as readers. The seminal point here is to slow yourself WAY down, to acknowledge that your first read is not worth much, and that serious reflection requires time.

Submission

Email the one-sheet as an attachment to tschenold@cornish.edu by the assigned date with the following specifications.

1. File format should be saved as Rich-Text or DOC format (.RTF or .DOC/DOCX)
2. Filename should be Lastname,Firstname_gsos.rtf (e.g. mine would be "Schenold,Terry_gsos.rtf")
3. Subject line for the email should simply be "GSOS"

Evaluation

These one-sheets should be polished writing that accurately represents the source material and demonstrates critical awareness of the ideas, arguments, concepts, etc. that the one-sheet structure calls for. This means these things are explicated concisely without misrepresentation (oversimplification, contradiction, etc.) or unnecessary commentary (excluding the commentary section, of course!). Furthermore, successful one-sheets will follow the guidelines in the template and will be submitted according to the instructions above (this will be factored into the grade). You will receive a provisional grade and written feedback that can be used for revision before the end of the semester.