ENGL 200 D
Morgan
Group Conferences: Blog Posts

The purposes of these conferences is twofold:

- to provide you with the opportunity to get feedback on your writing
- to allow you to practice giving feedback on others' writing

This first round of conferences is focused on your blog posts. At the end of the quarter, you are expected to turn in two revised blog posts (though you can start work revising them at any time).
At this point, you should have two blog posts (not counting your introduction). By next week, you should have **three.**

Standards: when you read someone else's post, you should be thinking about the following questions:

- Does the writing have a clearly articulated purpose?
- Is it clear why the purpose matters?
- How could the subject be extended? (What might the next step be, if the author was going to say more?)
- Does the post focus on details, as well as summary? Are there references to specific pieces of evidence?
- What would make this post more useful to you, as a reader?

If you've taken composition courses at the UW, then some of the questions are probably familiar, but I want to stress that a blog post is not necessarily argumentative – it may be informative, designed to serve as a resource, rather than to prove a specific point. For both informative and argumentative writing, it's important to be clear about purpose, and why the purpose matters.

What you need to do before the conference:

1. **At least 24 hours before the conference:** Read through your group members' blogs, and post a peer review response as a comment, using the above questions as a guideline. You do not need to respond to the introductory blog post.
2. **Note:** your Week 4 blog post is due on Tuesday – but if you want it to be commented on, it would be a good idea to post it by Monday.

What you need to do at the conference:

1. Speak briefly (2-3 minutes max) about one post that you'll revise, and what your goals are. **You may not read this statement: it needs to be something that you talk through.** (You're not being judged on formality.
2. After each person speaks, we'll go round the circle for everyone to respond briefly to what they've said. Your responses can be based on (and use) the peer review response that you posted, but you shouldn't just repeat it verbatim. You may not simply repeat what someone else has said. **Prioritize your remarks, and say what you think will be most helpful: you have about 3 minutes.** I'll add in my feedback at the end.

What your conference grade is based on:

- Your posted feedback
- Your statement, made at the beginning of the conference, and your willingness to engage others in discussion about your writing
- Your comments during conference, and your willingness to listen to the author, and make constructive suggestions.