

# Source Analysis

## **Discussion Expectations**

This course will have regular source discussions throughout the semester. In these lab discussion sessions, you will be asked to analyze texts, films, maps, or podcasts. Using specific techniques, you will analyze these sources to think about them from multiple perspectives and interpret their meaning. You will fill out an analysis sheet each time we discuss a source in class. You will turn in a paper copy on the date it is due. For students to get credit for the source analysis sheets as a part of their ePortfolio, they must be in class for the discussion.

## **Analysis**

For many of you, the process of analysis may be something new and intimidating. 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?

- Is the creator trying to prove anything?
- Why was the source created?
- What was the purpose of the source?
- Who was the audience for the source?
- What does this source teach us?
- How does the source help us understand something about our problem?
- When was the source created and what did it mean to the people during that time?
- Consider the creator and what perspective/bias that might bring to the source.
- Consider what in the source doesn't fit or might surprise you.
- Does the source remind you of anything?
- Why is this source important?

Adapted from Lab Worksheet created by Prof. Spencer and Dr. Jill Anderson

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Source Analysis

Title: "If white people were still here, this wouldn't happen

Author: Catherine Smith

Source Date: 11 February 2021

Source Type: Article

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

This problem has been festering for so, so many years, and the only reason that this was brought to light was that 2021 was the year that the Black Lives Matter movement really took the world by storm. I believe that the audience is people who didn't even know this crisis was occurring and this article seems to inspire the uneducated masses to do something about this problem before it fades into obscurity again.

Summary (what important facts about the source's content should we note for our discussion): Ever since 2012, residents of this community have been hounding the government system for years because this situation is disgusting in that literal sewer water seems to flood the neighborhoods and streets. Even in St. Louis, we have recently experienced horrible flooding that has altered the lives of thousands, where again, the help was very minimal.

Analysis (what should we take away to better understand our problem and its stakeholders?): There need to be ways for issues like this to be addressed, such as like a redistribution of power within governments, allowing people and other communities to come together to fix the issues, one main reason are the landlords that are hardly effected.