**DTC 375 “Language, Texts, and Technology**

**Reflective Essays**

**General Directions:**

Reflect upon each of the readings you have been assigned using one of the topics provided. For each, provide at least one concrete example to draw from, and cite at least one sentence from the text to back yourself up. Be sure to cite your work correctly. Consult the “Citing Cheatsheet,” found on our class website.

Your essay should contain between 250-500 words. Because this essay will be included among the materials in your WordPress Site and count heavily toward your project grade, please check your work via SpellCheck and GrammarCheck. After you have finished writing the piece, read it back to yourself in order to catch further errors.

**1. How to Read Texts and What It Means to Be a DTC Major**

Hayles, *How We Think*, Chs. 1-3

Topics:

* Your experience with reading texts.
* New approaches to teaching and learning that you have found effective.
* Your view of Hayles’ notion of “technogenesis.”

**2. How to Think about Their Use of Technology**

Rushkoff, *Program or Be Programmed*

Topics:

* One of the 10 commands and write your reflection on it.
* “Do [you] really have to program?” (7)—your views on this question.
* Your experience with social media, and your views of Rushkoff’s move to leave FaceBook [but staying active on Twitter].

**3. The History of Computer Technology**

Ceruzzi, *Computing*

Topics:

* One innovation in computer technology presented by Ceruzzi that you found fascinating.
* The impact of the military and defense industry upon the development of computer technology.
* Where we may be headed in regards to new digital technologies.

**4. Code as Text and the Impact of Computer Technology upon Culture**

Montfort et al, *10 Print*

Topics:

* Code as a form of language.
* The maze as a cultural metaphor.
* What computers do better than humans and why.

**5. How We Learn**

Davidson, *Now You See It*

Topics:

* The myth of multi-tasking.
* Your experience with learning and unlearning and learning again.
* Changes in the worker and the workplace.

**6. Expanded Notions of Text**

Postscript: Discussion, from pBooks to dBooks

Topics:

* Affordances of multimedia books.
* If the medium affects the message, as Marshall McLuhan suggests, then what does this say about digital books?
* Where texts are headed.