**Overview**

For Milestone 3, you will compose an essay that synthesizes and extends your work from milestones 1 & 2. This is your opportunity to convey your thoughts and impress us with logic and evidence-based claims. We encourage you to think hard about how you can synthesize topics and make compelling arguments. We will evaluate your presentation using a rubric. The rubric is on the [submission page](https://osu.instructure.com/courses/96710/assignments/2041267).

**Instructions**

1. Using a word processor, answer each prompt completely and concisely.
2. Clearly identify each of your short essays to correspond with the numbered prompts below. For additional rules, see the bottom of this page.
3. Save your document as a .doc, .docx, or .pdf file and upload to the [submission page](https://osu.instructure.com/courses/96710/assignments/2041267) before the deadline.

**Essay prompts**

1. **Introduce your topic**.

* + What is your topic?
  + Unrelated to video games, why does this topic matter?

2. **Present your argument.**Construct an argument using a select theory about the issue you have selected. In this section explain how the topic is important to games and society. To do this, please address the following:

* + Briefly state your core argument (write this after you complete this entire section)
  + Select a theory/model/concept upon which to ground your argument (see the theory list below). Explain the core idea of your theory. In other words, what does the theory state, broadly speaking?
  + How does the content of video games relate to the theory you selected (reference your work from milestone 1 to help you do this)? Remember that you are building an argument, not merely describing things.
  + How do the effects of games relate to the theory you selected (reference your work from milestone 2 to help you do this)? Remember that you are building an argument, not merely describing things.

3. **Present a formal conclusion**. Synthesize your work across all milestones.

* + In regards to video games and society, should the general public care about the issue you selected? Why?
  + Apply your conclusion to gamers. Why should gamers care about your conclusion? Should gamers do anything in response to your conclusion?
  + Apply your conclusion to video game industry professionals. Why should industry professionals care about your conclusion? Should professionals do anything in response to your conclusion?

**Theory list**

Demonstrate your mastery of course material by linking a theory from class to your topic. Choose wisely. Some of these theories appeared in the milestone 1 and 2 readings. Some of them did not. Some have a more direct fit to certain topics. Regardless of which theory you select, ensure that you present arguments in your own words (i.e., avoid quoting and paraphrasing milestone 1 and 2 readings too heavily).

* Objectification theory
* The Model of Intuitive Moral and Exemplars (MIME)
* Proteus effect
* Social comparison theory
* Flow
* Disinhibition & Desensitization
* Social learning theory (i.e., social cognitive theory)
* Dyadic and/or monadic identification

**Short essay rules**

* **Word count**. Maximum of 800 words. There is not a minimum number of words. Please provide the word count at the end of your submission.
* **Clarity**. Because you discuss many articles, clearly identify which article you are describing by stating the authors' names using APA in-text citations (see [sample essay](https://docs.google.com/document/d/16JwiTvNNQGOKUTHRDPp9l3mlYpFJXctmMULSY6hO8Qw/edit?usp=sharing)from milestone 1)
* **Font**. Please select from the following APA standard fonts:  11-point Calibri, 11-point Arial, 10-point Lucida Sans Unicode, 12-point Times New Roman, or 11-point Georgia.
* **Works cited.** Provide references at the end of your essay on a new page.
* **In-text citations**. Please use in-text citations to indicate who you discussing (see [sample essay)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/16JwiTvNNQGOKUTHRDPp9l3mlYpFJXctmMULSY6hO8Qw/edit?usp=sharing) from milestone 1. If you quote an author (rather than paraphrase) you must indicate that you are quoting following APA guidelines.
* **Line spacing**. Single-line spacing, double-line spacing, or anything in between.
* **Margins**. 1 inch, 1.5 inches, or anything in between.
* **Title, author, etc**. Page numbers are required. You may provide a title but it's not required. Please do not include name, date, and class (these are all provided by Carmen).