

Bednar

Critical Media Theory

Take-Home Critical Engagement Assignment 7: Feminist Analysis

Due in class October 31, 2024

Let's use this assignment as an opportunity to solidify our understanding of the critical concepts for the Final Research Project for this class by annotating a set of research articles. The main purpose of annotating research articles is to train you on the process of designing effective research projects, which involves defining and coordinating your conceptualization of your research object and your methodology with the way you engage other scholars. Use the two handouts I circulated earlier about the Final Project and Initial Proposal to guide you with the terminology.

Prompt: Annotate the 3 assigned readings by Moro et al., Izadi & Dryden, and Muller et al. In this context, to annotate them means to identify the following items in each article:

- 1) the research object (RO) being directly analyzed (Defined as specifically as possible)
- 2) the central research questions (RQs) that drive the analysis and are then answered by the central argument or claim (Usually, there are at least 2 RQs either implied or directly stated: one question directly about the RO, and one about larger communication phenomena)
- 3) the strategies used to describe and contextualize the research object (Not the analysis of the RO or the claim, but factual information the author shares to describe/contextualize what is distinctive about the RO)
- 4) the methodology, including theoretical framework(s) and methods for analyzing the research object (Methodologies have two components: theoretical frameworks and analytical methods. A theoretical framework is a way of thinking and a method is a way of doing, so a methodology is a structured way of thinking through and with the things that you are doing to analyze a certain research object. Methodology = analytical method + theoretical framework.)
- 5) lit review/critical engagement patterns (What patterns do you notice about which other scholarly authors they critically engage and how, including what kinds of strategies each assigned author uses to characterize/review and mobilize the existing scholarly literature in articulating their argument and showing what their "contribution to the literature" is?)

Please note that some of these items are easier to identify than others, and that some articles are more explicit in stating them than others. That means that there might be multiple right answers for each item.

No time limit. Open Book/Open Notes. Typed or handwritten. Please note also that I expect to see a separate section for each article, and that this should be written in the form of a list or bullet points, not an essay.