ENG 210-27

1/21/21

*Research Journal* (10% final grade)

Journal due: **May 7** (Friday, last week of classes for us)

This assignment has at least these two purposes:

1. To act as a record of your work. It will likely be most useful as a place to brainstorm/freewrite/plan and to note potential ideas/research that may contribute to your final essay.

2. A space for reflection on the process of researching your topic and writing your essay, as well as on particular classes, activities or assignments that were part of this course.

The final journal must contain at least six separate entries for a total of about 1,000 words. The journal should be typed double-spaced in Times Roman 12-point type, with a date and total word count. Otherwise, the format is up to you. You might find it easier to write more than six, shorter entries—for example 10 entries of about 100 words each. The style can, or should, be personal, including use of the first person, but must adhere to basic grammar and sentence construction considerations. You should also try to include reflections from all parts of the semester, not just write till you hit 1,000 words, or start in the last few weeks.

To start, you could comment on possible Internet topic areas, and reading the Carr essay. You might discuss some research that you did into a possible topic area, and whether it seemed to be promising. Any of the other class activities can work, such as conferences, presentations and library sessions. Also, keep the following three questions in mind as possible idea generators for any new material or event you experience:

* what did you learn (about the research process)?
* what surprised you?
* what do you need to know next?

Above all, make sure that you *reflect* on the *process* of doing research and class activities. Don’t reprint your Carr analysis, or tell me what you think about social media, or reprint your annotated bibliography or other submitted work.