PROJECT 1 ETHICS ESSAY (100 PTS)

The process of editing often requires a series of ethical choices, such as editing for style without erasing someone's voice, being reflective of the assumptions and values that influence your decisions, and providing feedback that is both firm and kind. Based on our readings of ethical and socially-just editing practices, you will write a 4–5-page essay reflecting on the ethical responsibilities of editing and/or being an editor.[1]

Guidelines

The goals of this essay are twofold: present a claim that is well supported by the class readings and apply those ideas to a specific example.

Your essay should be structured by a claim about the ethical responsibilities of editing and/or being an editor. This is the focus of the essay, and the discussion should be grounded in specific references to *at least three* of the readings from Weeks 1–3. You may include an outside article to supplement your discussion, but that is not required.

In addition to three class readings, you will support your discussion using a real example of an unethical writing, editing, or publishing situation. For example, I shared the Vox article about a book cancellation to support our class discussion of editors' (and publishers') responsibilities to readers. Once you identify an example that is relevant to your discussion, you will provide context about the issue and reflect on the different ways it could potentially be addressed.

Evaluation Criteria

- critical discussion grounded in course readings (50 pts)
- connection to and reflection on a real situation (25 pts)
- organization (15 pts): introduction & conclusion, structuring of claims, transitions
- technical details (10 pts): plain language, grammar, style, usage, and MLA

Submission Details

The Project 1 Ethics Essay must be 4–5 pages and formatted according to MLA 9th edition guidelines, including a Works Cited. Submit your essay as a .docx or PDF.

Essays are due to Canvas by the start of class (11am) on Friday, February 4th.

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[1] Alternatively, you are welcome to address the ethical responsibilities of writing and/or being a writer.