Final Project: Repurposing an Army Field Manual

Point Total:
200 points (20% of your course grade)

Due Date:
May 11, 2015

Assignment:
In the workplace, editors are frequently tasked with repurposing old information into new formats for new purposes and new audiences. For example, an old software manual might need to be updated for a new phone app. A tutorial for an old PC game might need to be reworked into a game level on an iPad game. New content is expensive to create, and project managers look to reuse information whenever they can.

In this case, you are repurposing information in *Army Field Manual 21-76: Evasion, Survival, and Escape* for a consumer/civilian audience. You will complete this task in a small group of three or four students. You are allowed to use any sections or aspects of the manual, but you must transform the material into a useful document appropriate to your new audience and purpose.

The format of the project is up to you, but you should take into consideration the conditions under which it will be used. (For example, you might want to laminate something that is going to be used in or near water.) The scope of the project is also up to you. It must be thorough enough to achieve its purpose. It should also reflect the effort that three or four educated people working toward a common goal can achieve.

Possibilities include repurposing part of the manual into a website for kids, an app for hikers, a pamphlet for park visitors, or a training guide for corporate executives.

Complete the following steps with your group members.

Step 1:   Review the manual and choose a section within it to repurpose.

Step 2:   Read the text and establish the new document purpose and the new intended audience.

Step 3:   Choose a format (app, pamphlet, brochure, website, poster, manual, or any other option that seems appropriate).

Step 4:   Outline the existing text to the third level of detail.

Step 5:   Analyze the current problems in the document in achieving your new purpose. Write a two-page, double-spaced explanation of the problems and your proposed solutions.

Step 6:   Create a new outline for the material that solves these problems.

Step 7:   Create your new project.

Step 8:   Write a two-page, double-spaced report explaining your design and organizational strategies.

Step 9:   Prepare a 7-10 minute presentation to give in class. All group members must participate actively in your presentation.

Group Deliverables (in a professional folder):

1. Outline of the original text to the third level of detail
2. Report analyzing the problems in the original document
3. New outline for the material you're including in your repurposed document
4. Proofed sheets of edits and changes made to original text. (Print out the original sections and show me what edits were made to the text. Use traditional copyediting marks.)
5. Report explaining your design and organizational strategies
6. Your final project

Individual Deliverable:

Complete a worksheet that (1) details the work that you completed for the group project and (2) assigns a letter grade to each of your fellow group members with accompanying explanations.

Grading Breakdown:

Final Project, 150 points
Group Presentation, 35 points
Individual Worksheet, 15 points