

State of Your Profession (SYP) Report Format and Guidelines (40%)

You are writing this report/paper as a practitioner. If you were in an interview and the interviewer asked what changes your field has gone through in the past five years, and what might need to change as you move forward, this paper could be considered a blueprint.

The audience for your report will either be faculty and administrators at Hunter (what kind of curriculum changes need to happen?) or an employer of a company, so you don't need any basic definitions. Rather, think about the report as a presentation. What is the most important information or current conversations your audience needs to know, and how will you tell it in way they will remember? Remember, these conversations can include diversity, safety, accessibility, equity, etc.

Overview

Your five page, single spaced report will include the following:

- A. **First page:** A summary of the most two or three important developments in the past five years. This is generally positive in tone and includes examples and statistics to show growth (with citations).
 - Do not go into general definitions or introductions.
 - Imagine this is a report to the head of your department as opposed to a teacher. How would your writing sound?
- B. **Second & Third Pages:** Think of this as a conversation between experts concerning two or three ethical challenges that have been presented and overcome, or still to be addressed. You want to cite the authors speaking.
 - What are their concerns and what evidence do they bring up? What helped the issue get resolved?
 - Try to be as concrete as you can (remember how complex getting pockets in women's clothing can be).
- C. **Third and Fourth Pages:** Discussion of a more specific, relevant ethical issue and its nuances. Bring in different authors to look at the issue.
 - For instance, if I was writing about the concept of "ungrading," I can't just cite art and humanities professors who agree with me. I would have to account for STEM professors who teach a different kind of curriculum.
 - I would need to think about how "ungrading" would look like for them and get their viewpoints and think about them in concrete terms:
 - .What are they concerned about? When would they get the time to change their syllabus and lesson plans (it actually takes a lot of time to change up

one's curriculum! This is something known among teachers, but rarely outside of academia).

- So, show me what you know about your field.

D. **Fifth Page:** This is your assessment and recommendations, or further questioning. Try to be as specific and concrete as possible.

- How many people would need to be involved?
- What kind of training would be necessary?
- Who would train them?
- Where would the money come from?
- Your job here isn't to solve the issue in one page, but rather, ask provoking questions and look at first steps to addressing the issues.

E. Works Cited Page

You will need to make the report easily readable. Therefore, make sure you have the following:

- Paragraphs that don't go over half a page (5-7 lines or less is best)
- Paragraphs tackle **one main idea**
- Transitions from paragraph to paragraph
- Fluid writing (read your paper out loud to someone else)
- Headings (for easier reading)