

Place-based Pedagogy In-class Activity 2

Evaluating Questions and Claims Based on Observations

As a group, read through your five finished questions from the in-class activity introduced after the previous video. Choose one that you think is the most likely to lead to a strong, arguable claim. Copy and paste that question to the Class Google doc that your instructor will share with all the groups.

As you read through the posted questions in the Class Google doc, use your original Group Google doc to respond to each of the other groups' questions through the exercise below.

1. Are you fairly sure you understand the question or are there aspects that seem unclear? Is there phrasing that could be revised to make a clearer question?

2. Using the question as originally phrased (and not your revision if you created one) collaborate to develop a working claim based on course topics for a paper of the length that you have been assigned. Look at your working claim and figure out a counterargument you would need to acknowledge.

- If you have extreme difficulty developing an arguable claim and cannot do so, write a few sentences explaining why coming up with a claim was difficult. Was it due to the structure of the question? What aspects of the structure? The content of the question? Some other reason?

3. What strategy / strategies for developing questions and claims do you notice from the process of looking at each question and creating (or not creating!) each claim.

Move through the rest of the questions in the Class Google doc and respond to the three questions above for each one.

4. On your own, return to your working question and claim and evaluate it based on the criteria and strategies the class discovered through this in-class activity.