Group Activity: Creating a Tweet about Work Today

Due on Friday, April 3 by 9:00pm.

Instructions –

At best, Twitter has been used as a way to reach a large audience with information and perspectives about issues of importance to society. Twitter users learn to express themselves through Tweets consisting of brief phrases limited to 280 characters or less.

In this exercise each member of the group will either create a Tweet or Reply to a Tweet created by another group member about the subject of Work Today. Your Tweet or Reply should be based on the readings for this week listed below, our Zoom discussion or current events. As an additional twist you can also choose to find an article pertaining to one of the questions listed below and include it in your tweet. *REMEMBER TO ADD YOUR NAME TO YOUR TWEET SO I KNOW YOU DID IT!*

Use these Readings to Inform Your Tweet:

➢ **Harold Meyerson**, "The Future of Work: Stemming the Rise of Bad Jobs" in American Prospect, in Pacific Standard, August 4, 2015 -**https://psmag.com/economics/the-future-of-work-stemming-the-rise-of-bad-jobs**

➢ **Kyla Mandel.** "We Now Know Who Society's Essential Workers Are. And They're Among the Lowest Paid" in Huffington Post, March 26, 2020
- **https://www.huffpost.com/entry/essential-workers-lowest-paid_n_5e7bc7f7c5b6256a7a23e6f5**

➢ **Stephanie Luce**. "It Didn't Have to Be Like This" in Labor Notes, March 27, 2020
- https://www.labornotes.org/2020/03/it-didnt-have-be

Your tweet should address <u>one</u> of the following:

➢ Your general thoughts about work today based on what you learned.

➢ What makes for good jobs and bad jobs. What should be done by elected officials and others to bring about more good jobs for all.

➢ What have we learned about essential workers from the response to COVID-19? How is COVID-19 impacting workers? What needs to be done to protect workers during this time?

Basic Rules for creating a Tweet (see below for more guidance):

1. All tweets have a maximum of 280 characters. Each letter represents a character.

2. You can add #Hashtags that succinctly capture your issue. The hashtags do not count towards your word count. Hashtags for this exercise are: #IntroSocLAGCC and #WorkToday. Feel free to create your own hashtags and add them in!

3. You can tag others on Twitter that you want to see your post. For example, you would use @NYGovCuomo to tag New York Governor Andrew Cuomo or you could find the twitter handle for your member of Congress or another public figur. You can tag as many people as you want without it counting for your 280 characters.

4. You do not have to join Twitter to do this exercise.   Each group will be sent a link to a Google Doc where you can add your Tweets and Replies.

5. Include your name with your tweet or reply (this will not count towards your 280 characters).

Remember, you will not be given a letter grade for this exercise. It will just be graded for completion meaning that everyone that participates gets full credit.

Perfection is not expected but hopefully it will be useful and enjoyable.

Your First Tweet (copied from "How to Use Twitter: Critical Tips for New Users" in *WIRED*, Oct 2018 - https://www.wired.com/story/how-to-setup-twitter-search-hashtag-and-login-help/)

Before you start firing off tweets, it might help to know a little about the mechanics.

Step 1: All tweets are a maximum of 280 characters. While that might seem too short to say anything substantive, it's not. It might mean having to tweet multiple times to make a complex point (in the Twittersphere, we call that a thread), but boiling down your thoughts to a couple of lines really just makes your statement stronger, faster to read, and more shareable.

Step 2: Speaking of a Twitter thread, if you have more than 280 characters to say about a subject they are easy to make. Just type your first tweet using the "Tweet" button, and hit the + button on the bottom right. This will string together a series of tweets where you can make a larger point.

Step 3: If you want to add a photo, a video, a poll, or a gif, you can do so in the lower bar of the "Compose new Tweet" box. Adding a photo does not use up any of your 280 characters, and you can add up to four photos or a video less than 2:20 in length and 500mb in size.

Step 4: Sharing a link your Tweet will decrease your character count by 23 characters. Pro tip: Leave a space between your text and the link. Otherwise it may include the entirety of the link in your character count.

Step 5: Hashtags are best used for adding to a larger conversation, and the most popular ones show up on the left side of the "Home" tab. Hashtags are clickable, too, so you can tap on a hashtag to see all the tweets related to that topic.