# **Project #2: Writing with Technical Genres in Context**

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate that you can explain a technical genre of your choice, compose your own example of that genre, and justify how your example conforms (or successfully bends) the genre conventions. To do this, you will choose a technical genre, define that genre, create an example of that genre, and explain why your text belongs to the genre you’ve chosen. As part of this explanation, you should include evidence from the example you’ve composed to support your assertions about how well your text fits the genre you’ve chosen. **The revised draft of your genre project should be 1,000-1,500 words.**

**Note 1:** Remember that when we talk about genre in this course, we are not only talking about literary genres - we are talking about genres of composition. Therefore, choosing something like the “mystery” or “science fiction” genre will not be useful. You can refer to our textbook for the types of genres we cover in this course.

**To be considered complete, your final draft should include:**

* **Your revised genre assignment of 1,000-1,500 words**
* **Your works cited or references page**
* **Your revision note, which includes a discussion of your revisions**

**To get started**, choose a technical genre you want to write. (This is important because you don’t want to be stuck with a genre you don’t like if you have to compose in it.) It’s a good idea to start this project by looking through the technical genres explained in *Practical Strategies for Technical Communication* and the *Handbook of Technical Writing*, our course textbooks. If you’re not sure what to technical genre choose, ask your instructor for guidance. [Note here whether or not they are required or just encouraged to use the same genre they wrote about in project 1.]

**When you’re ready to begin** the writing process, think about the following:

* How would you define this technical genre, especially in terms of the rhetorical situation and the genre conventions?
* In terms of style, what is the tone of the genre and how does it appeal to readers?
* What formatting or design choices define the genre?
* What is the most common medium for this genre? In other words, where is this genre most commonly found? How does that location/technology impact the format of the genre and who can access it?
* Who uses this genre? How do they use it? What types of things usually get talked about with this genre?
* How will you justify that your text belongs to this genre?
* What kinds of evidence can you pull from your genre text that helps you show your reader how the text fits into your chosen genre?

## Format & Layout

[Insert how you want students to format their paper. As the instructor, you can add more specificity to the prompt but do not change the scope or rigor of the assignment.]

Final submission should be **uploaded on Blackboard** as an Adobe PDF or Word file.

## Sample Assignment Outline

There will be **three major components** of this assignment: your explanation of the genre, your example of the genre, and your explanation of how your example fits the constraints of the genre as you’ve defined them. All three components should be uploaded in the same document.

* Introduction
  + Introduce the assignment’s purpose and organization
* Technical Genre Definition
  + Identify the genre you’ve chosen
  + Define the genre’s style, design, and medium
  + Explain who uses the genre and why they use it
* Technical Genre Text
  + Include your own composition here
* Technical Genre Text Explanation
  + Explain how your genre text matches the constraints of that genre using evidence from your text
  + Explain how the genre conveys your message and why it is an effective choice for the message
* Conclusion

## Due Dates

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Stage** | **Due** |
| Proposal | [MM-DD] |
| First Draft | [MM-DD] |
| Conferences | [MM-DD] |
| Peer Review | [MM-DD] |
| Final Draft | [MM-DD] |

## Revision Note

When you are ready to submit your final draft in Week 8, you must include a revision note at the beginning of this document, before your final draft begins. Your revision note must explain the revisions you made to your original draft and why.

## Final Submission Checklist

* I have included a revision note as the first page of my assignment where I explain what revisions I made to my draft and why.
* I have defined the technical genre and introduced the specific categories of rhetorical situations and genre conventions that I will discuss.
* I have included my own example of the genre.
* I have justified why my composition belongs to the genre using the same criteria that I described in my genre definition and with evidence from the example I created.
* I have provided evidence to support my thesis statement.
* I have included in-text citations and a Works Cited/Reference page.
* I have formatted my assignment [as my instructor has described.]
* I have saved the document as a .pdf or .docx file for submission.