**Composition #1: Defining our Wicked Problem, Audience=Classmates**

Rough Draft: September 10, bring a paper copy to class to workshop

Due Date: September 17, by end of day

Submission Information: Submit as a page on your ePortfolio AND as a post on course website

Length: 800-1,000 words

**Prompt**

According to our textbook, wicked problems have six characteristics (see p. 68). For this first MC, think about issues of water equity and infrastructure in your own life. Choose a problem that you or people in the surrounding community experienced in places where you’ve lived. Elaborate on all the factors involved and the people, animals, and plants that were affected by it. Explain how your problem aligns with the six characteristics of a wicked problem.

**Characteristics of Wicked Problems**

1. Vague problem definition
2. Undefined solution
3. No endpoint
4. Irreversible
5. Unique
6. Urgent

Describe the problem as it exists in your community. Sometimes it is difficult to uncover the problem because there are so many factors at play. What do you think the actual problem is? Who are the stakeholders? What do we still need to know to fully understand the problem? Whose voices need to be included in the process of coming to understand it?

Remember, this composition’s audience is your team. Consider how to adapt your writing to make it compelling to them. What language register is most appropriate? What examples would be most engaging for them?

**A successful Multimodal Composition will**:

* Engage with the six characteristics of wicked problems demonstrating a full understanding of key concepts.
* Include and fully describe how the problem fits the characteristics using specific examples.
* Logically organize the composition’s main ideas.
* Use language and examples appropriate to the audience.

You may use images or graphs to further prove your point, but it isn’t necessary. Similarly, you may use additional resources to support your ideas, but it isn’t required. If you do, be sure to cite them!