**Genre Analysis**

**The Task**

Your task is to analyze the rhetorical situation (GRAPE) with specific attention to the **genre** of opinion editorials. Evidence and examples for your analysis should be taken from models we read and discuss in class and any other op-eds you have read on your own this semester.

**Purpose and Format**

Your purpose in doing this assignment is to gain a thorough understanding of op-ed genre conventions and then clearly present your knowledge in a brief write-up. Thus, your audience is yourself and your classmates, a group of individuals invested in better understanding the op-ed genre.

In your introduction paragraph, you should briefly identify who writes op-eds (the rhetors), who reads op-eds (the audience), why people write op-eds (the purpose), and what causes op-eds to be written (the exigence).

Use your body paragraphs to more thoroughly unpack the genre of an op-ed. The following questions will aid you in conducting your analysis:

* How are op-eds structured? How are paragraphs organized? How long are the paragraphs?
* What kind of writing style is used in an op-ed? Are they formal or casual? How can you tell?
* Why do people care about this genre? What kinds of topics or issues are covered?
* What makes an op-ed effective or not for the situation? What patterns do you see?
* What are the options (deviations) and what are the standards (conventions) of this genre?

You do not need to answer every question in your analysis, but you can use the questions to help you get started.

Your final essay should be 500 words, double-spaced.

**Grading**

Your analysis will be graded based on the quality and thoughtfulness of your writing and your ability to present your analysis clearly. Your goal is to explain the genre conventions of an op-ed so that someone reading your writing could then write their own op-ed and meet the genre expectations.