



June 2024

Dear Syracuse University Project Advance Student:

Welcome to SUPA, a first-year college course in academic writing and textual studies that all Syracuse freshmen take as part of their baccalaureate studies at Syracuse University. You will find this college course enjoyable, challenging, and useful. SUPA will intellectually challenge you, requiring you to deeply explore and thoroughly interact with college-level subject matter. This college course will prepare you for the academic rigor you can look forward to in your near-future, and you will have the opportunity to earn 6 Syracuse University credits.

In preparation for this year, please read the essay “**How Social Media Shapes our Identity,**” by **Nausicaa Renner**.

The *New Yorker* essay reflects on the relevant questions of our time and offers some research and data to ponder: “We tweet, we like, and we share— but what are the consequences of our growing dependence on social media?”

In preparation for the school year, please write a **1-2-page reflection** (400-500 words) in which you reflect on the quote “I post, therefore I am.” **This assignment is due the first week of school.**

Consider the following in your reflection:

- What does “I post, therefore I am” mean to you?
- How does social media play a role in your life as a student? As a citizen?
- What are the benefits to posting and sharing?
- What are the challenges social media presents?

For your summer reading assignment, it is important to submit only original work to maintain academic integrity and foster genuine learning. This allows you to truly showcase your unique ideas and creativity and gives your new teacher an opportunity to get to know you and your voice. Embracing your own voice not only strengthens your skills but also makes your learning experience more rewarding and enjoyable.

Be prepared to discuss the essay in class as we redefine *genre* and acknowledge that social media is currently a salient *genre*.

We look forward to a SUPA year together!

Sincerely,

Seren Cepler, Amy Estersohn & Nicole Reis
Syracuse University Adjunct Instructors