



PROJECT DATA

Note: This form is for **APPROVED GRANTS** only! A Project Data form is a requirement for the grants. The information provided will be posted on the Learning College website.

Directions: Fill out the form and email it to anne.holte@montgomerycollege.edu.

Project Name: The Language of War: a Grand Illusion

Project Director: Dr. Patrick Feeney

Project Starting and Ending Date: October, 2005-March, 2006

Brief description of the project: The goal of this project is to critically evaluate the language used to describe war, particularly the words used by powerholders. Our analysis will include the language of war from the U.S. Civil War to the present. We will also consider war language in three other countries: Venezuela, Guatemala and Russia.

Our second goal is to have our work accepted at the annual convention of the Southern Sociological Society (SSS) in New Orleans. The SSS convention focuses primarily on the research by faculty and graduate students. We would like to have students from SO101 classes present their part of the research at the conference.

State fundamental need or concern addressed in this project. We are interested in constructing a sociological analysis of the language of war, particularly how it can influence the social construction of reality. We feel this is especially important in light of what we see and hear about the wars in the Middle East.

List the project's core goals and/or objectives. Our main goal is to engage in what sociologists call “debunking,” or questioning official versions of reality. Our second goal is to have our work accepted at the annual convention of the Southern Sociological Society in New Orleans. We would like to have students present their part of the research at the conference.

Who will benefit from this project? Several groups will benefit. First, our students benefit in three ways. First, they are able to apply what they were learning in class to a research project. Second, they are able to present their work at a professional conference. Third, they have an important addition to their resumes.

Our audience at the conference will also benefit. My other students will also benefit by hearing about the project. Some of them have already expressed an interest in working on a research project with me next year.

Montgomery College will also benefit by getting some name recognition at the largest regional sociology conference in the U.S. This will be especially important as more of our students go on to graduate school.

Finally, I will benefit by working with such a group of interesting students and applying sociology to real-world issues.