

*ANTELOPE VALLEY'S PLACE ASSIGNMENT – 50 PTS.*

We have been discussing what sense of place means and how even the most mundane places are unique. The Antelope Valley may seem bland with its shopping mall, McDonaldses, and Wal-Marts, but there are aspects that you only find here. I want you to *deconstruct* your home city in the Antelope Valley, paying close attention to the objects, experiences, symbols, and signs that give it a sense of place. Think about the physical things you can only find here as well as the cultural attitudes and practices.

Your assignment is to take two different photographs of landscapes in the Antelope Valley that you feel represent its sense of place. Insert these into a word document and type up 1-2 pages of text explaining why you took them and how they evoke the “placeness” of the Antelope Valley.

***Absolutely no Joshua trees at sunset photographs!*** These can be beautiful, but are also cliché and are only one tiny piece of this region. I want to see you use your junior geographer brains!

I should note that I am not simply looking for a public relations piece on the Antelope Valley, nor do I want a cynical attack piece on the region. I want to see you thinking about what the place is to you personally. Your photos and text may be positive or negative in tone, but be sure to give concrete examples as to why you feel the way you do. An “A” paper will use relevant concepts and ideas from our class to explain the sense of place of the Antelope Valley.

Remember to 1) spell check your essay 2) stay on topic and 3) start each paragraph with a good topic sentence. Papers with awful spelling, grammar, or form will be docked!

Check the class schedule for the exact due date of this assignment. You are welcome to submit papers via email ([mpesses@avc.edu](mailto:mpesses@avc.edu)) as attachments (Word Documents or PDFs only please), but they must be sent prior to the beginning of class on the date due to not be considered late.