Write about Postmodernism

Style:

* Write 4.5- 6 pages, double style
* Site resources if you use

Prospecting

The purpose of this assignment is to challenge you or to offer you the opportunity to think through or come to some clarity with regard to the fundamental qualities or nebulous essence of postmodernism both as a time period and as a set of theoretical/philosophical commitments or claims. Basic questions such as: ‘what is it?’, ‘what are its defining characteristics?’ are entirely appropriate but do not need to be directly addressed. It is a little like prospecting for gold: filtering through materials in the name of finding something of some value.

Checklist

It is possible for one to have done excellent work by doing all, none, or some of the following:

1) A general appraisal of what PoMo is and what it is not

2) An engagement with a primary author or authors

3) An engagement with other resources

4) A conclusion that can be either or both:

a) a Self Reflective Summary, what you take it to be on the basis of your learning thus far, or b) a Theoretical: Conjecture(s) about the problems or virtues of the post modern ‘line of flight’/perspective.

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Resources for Analysis grounded in textual interpretation **(The sources mention there, they are what I sent)**

Ground your reflections on the nature of postmodernism in textual interpretation/reading. Draw from at least one of the texts that we have discussed in class (Lyotard’s letter on the three different moments of ‘post’ [and to a lesser extent Lyotard’s Answer to the Question….], Jameson’s essay Postmodernism and Consumer Society, and X’s summary of the project of Hardt & Negri’s Empire) and go beyond these primary texts to find additional resources (they can be primary texts) through your own researches (fine to use the materials presented in the content folders on BB). These ‘additional resources’ need not be academic or philosophic texts. You can draw from a plurality of resources: Cultural Phenomena (art works, films, political movements, protests, economic phenomenon- what do these things say or tell us about the postmodern?) or Singular Testimonies (videos, blogs, news, interviews that explicitly address or seek to ‘name’ postmodernism [critical or otherwise]- what do these people/sources contribute to an understanding of the peculiarity of, what is called, the postmodern?).