

Project 2: Research-Based Digital Compositions

Topic: Conduct and inquiry-based research project about a topic you are interested in. Collect, organize, and cite that research to support an original and specific claim you are making – you don't have to persuade but you should have a new perspective to offer the audience (informing or explaining to them this new angle of thought). Present that claim to an audience in the form of a digital composition.

Audience: Anyone who has internet but you will find a more specific audience individually.

Purpose: This is the most involved project of the semester. It's meant to both teach you how to research and attribute information at the college-level but also to show you how composing in a different genre and with different modalities allows you to do different things with your compositions. You will complete a project (2,000 polished words) and a "Statement of Goals and Choices" (SoGC should be approximately 750 words) explaining your composing process and the decisions you made as a composer which should have a rhetorically effective impact on the audience). **The topic you choose for Project 2 will also be the topic you work with for Project 3!**

What genres can you choose from? Any digital genre that you would like, but can I suggest some: website, Wikipedia, blog, YouTube video (individual or a series of videos like a video blog).

Whatever genre you choose, you must

- Attribute (cite) your 10 sources, 7 of which are academic (1 interview)
- Identify the conventions of the genre you chose
- Combine different modalities (images/sounds/text) to communicate to your audience a well-designed project – this is more than *writing* a project, it is *designing* a composition
- Write a SoGC justifying your process and the choices you made

MY TIPS TO YOU: Choose a topic you love – you don't have to know everything about it but you should be interested in learning and researching it.

What questions do I want you to answer in your project?

1. How does your claim advance the topic's conversation? How are you saying something new, something that hasn't been said before?

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2. What research supports your claim?
3. Who does this matter to? Why?
4. How does the genre you have chosen to compose in make sense with regards to your audience and purpose?

What questions do I want you to answer in your SoGC?

1. Why did you choose this topic? This genre? How are the two connected?
2. What was your process of composing? What materials and technologies did you work with? What decisions did you make? Why?
3. What were your constraints and how did you overcome them?
4. How does the design function rhetorically? What is the expected impact on the audience?

How should you organize it?

It should be organized in a way that reflects the conventions of the genre you choose: How does that genre cite sources? How is it generally formatted? What is the balance between image and text? Can it include modalities like sound? Is there a traditional introduction and conclusion paragraph like an essay? What other features are conventional to this genre (what does my audience expect to see knowing this is a ___)?

Fair Use and Media

Because this project is for educational purposes, you should be protected by Fair Use when using existing media as sources. That being said, you must still attribute these sources and should use free sharing sites (like Creative Commons) whenever possible as these artists have already given permission for their work to be shared.

Due	Expectations
10/2	Short Assignment #1: Research Proposal A 250-500 word proposal designed to organize ideas and intentions based on the student's topic exploration and initial research. Students will reflect on what may have inspired the desire for further inquiry, including how they came up with the question, why it might be important, and how they plan to explore the question in their research. I will work with you to narrow the focus to evolve into one final research question and to evaluate examples of strong research questions. In this proposal, students should also identify who they might interview.

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10/7	<p>Short Assignment #2: Annotated Bibliography</p> <p>You will annotate ten potential sources, <i>seven of which must be academic, scholarly, and/or peer-reviewed sources</i>, examining credibility, relevance, potential incorporation, and potential connections to students' research questions. The Research-in-Progress Summary should also identify the final research question. Students will use this report to identify what's missing in their research. They will write the annotations for each source, and each annotation should be at least 150 words.</p> <p>Each annotation should--</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Begin with a correctly-formatted, APA citation 2) Briefly summarize the source and its main ideas. 3) Tell how the source relates to the research topic. 4) Tell how the source relates/does not relate to the other sources. 5) Optional: Tell new/different information this source provides; explain weaknesses/strengths of source; tell what about the source the student finds especially interesting. <p>For your interview, make a citation and explain who you are planning to interview, when, and why.</p>
10/13	<p>SFD of Project #2</p> <p>500-1,000 word draft of your research paper. In this draft, focus on introducing your topic, key terminology, developing your purpose, and planning the overall structure of your essay (even if that structure is skeletal). Does your essay build to effectively convey your purpose?</p>
10/18	<p>Short Assignment #3: Research Report (Map)</p> <p>Students will review ten final sources and their content, discussing relevance to topic and <i>establishing claims of each</i> that will work in student writing. This is not just a repetition on the information included in the previous assignment. Rather, it should be a specific discussion of where and how each source will be included in the final essay and show how these sources work together to prove and/or refute the student's claims.</p> <p>1,000 Word Draft (Draft 2)</p>
10/25	<p>Short Assignment #4: Interview</p> <p>Students will conduct an interview with an individual who offers first-hand expertise or with another relevant source. They should have ten-fifteen specific questions prepared ahead of time. Following the interview, students should submit a copy of the interview responses and/or notes they take during the interview.</p>

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10/27	Draft #2 for Peer Review and Conference: This 2,000 word draft will be peer reviewed in a class workshop. Plan to have the structure of your paper totally developed from beginning to end as well as all ten sources integrated. In class, we will focus on points for elaboration and extended detail as well as other superficial concerns. At this point, your paper should be mostly done and fulfilling all of the project's guidelines and demands.
11/11	Final Project 2,000 words remediated into digital form. This project should not just be your essay segmented; rather, the design of your electronic text should work with the structure of your essay to effectively lead a viewer through your text in a way that best achieves the purpose of your project.