

Project Option

Purpose: Develop and create an object that reflects or responds to the course theme in a particular way—you will want your object to educate or make an argument of some kind. Your object must have practical use for an audience that you specify.

Audience: An audience that *you* determine based on whose attention you hope to engage with your work

Format: You will determine the format of your object. Your written statement guidelines are below.

Final Due: Last day of class

Grading: 25% of your course grade

Source Requirements:

I would like you locate and use a range of sources:

- 1) Three-four substantial (in both *length* and *engagement* with the subject) secondary sources that offer an analysis or argument about your topic or issues related to your topic (I may allow more secondary sources, but you must get my individual approval for this). These should be from experts, stakeholders, or scholars interested in your topic.
- 2) Primary research specific to your topic. This can be any kind of primary data— anything from interviews to historical records.
- 3) Any informational sources (statistics, dates, names, data, facts) can also be used as you develop the object, but these should be somewhat minimal. If you use informational sources, cite them in the Works Cited page. You can also include a Works Consulted page for sources you used a lot in your background research but did not cite in your statement.

USE THE WRITING CENTER * GET EXTRA CREDIT.
Make your appointment a week in advance—it gets busy.
Don't wait until right before the paper is due.

Products:

Your object must:

- Contextualize and amplify your research, structure and re-present your data/research in a creative way
- Be in a format that can be handed in physically or digitally
- Reflect an argument or useful educational purpose related to our course theme
- Have practical use for an audience that you've specified

In your written justification of your project I'll expect you to:

- Explain what, specifically, this piece is trying to accomplish, or your goals for the project.
 - What work are you doing here? How have you opted to contextualize your data, and to what end?
 - For whom has this been created?
 - How does the work relate to the course theme or your research?
 - What argument about your data are you attempting to make?
 - Explain the goals or purposes that you have imagined for this piece.
- Give a chart detailing the specific material and rhetorical choices you made in support of your goals for the project. Your chart must explain how each choice you made explicitly connects to your goals for the project.
 - Break your chart up by goals, so that each goal has a specific section. Each section should articulate, in detail, how your rhetorical and material choices responded to that goal. Comment on arrangement, materials, audience awareness, selection of data, or other relevant concerns. It is also appropriate to weigh why you chose certain options/materials over others because of their rhetorical potential.
 - Include references to your research sources that were crucial in developing your object. Synthesize, interpret, and analyze the arguments of important stakeholders and participants of the issue into your explanation. Work effectively and accurately with sources by summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting properly. Choose and include evidence effectively. Avoid plagiarism or misuse of sources.
- Explain why you ended up pursuing your final plan for the project instead of your other plans for the project. Refer to any or all of the ideas you workshopped prior to creating this final version.
- Conclude with your final thoughts on why your project is important, valid, and worth considering. Raise any questions you may have about the importance of this project or its real-world applications.
- The written statement should be a minimum of 5 pages, 12 point font, double spaced. Be sure to use proper MLA citation, and to edit carefully for grammar, mechanics, and punctuation.