

CAPSTONE PROJECT: CREATING AND ANALYZING YOUR CULTURAL TEXT

For your Capstone Project, you will follow a 3-step process:

1) Proposal (20 points)

In no more than 1 page (250 words), describe the project you plan to create. Include descriptions of the medium/platform/genre (see step 2 below), the details that you will include, and what you think the main point of the project will be. Conclude by connecting your project to DOC concepts and materials. Students have until the final deadline to revise/refine their project proposal. **NOTE:** If working in pairs, only one (1) proposal is needed, but each student still needs to submit a separate AND original analysis (see step 3 below).

2) Your Cultural Object (30 points)

Your overall goal is to create a project that draws upon the materials, concepts, and method presented in DOC this year and refashions them within an artistic and creative framework.

Medium/platform/genres (select *one* from the following activities):

- Produce a video, website, or some other digital project
- Record yourself performing a song, a spoken-word poem, or some other kind of performance
- Write the lyrics to a song or a pair of songs
- Create a photography portfolio, or some other kind of visual or digital image archive
- Create a piece of art, or a plan/sketches for a piece of art, such as a photographs, a mural, sculptures, or statues, or a storyboard for a comic or graphic novel
- Interview a family member and use her/his memories to reconstruct the context of their life
- Write an essay, short story, a short reflection piece, or a poem (or series of poems)
- If you are more comfortable with a medium not included here, please discuss it with your TA.

3) DOC Analysis (50 points)

In a 2-3 page written exercise, critically analyze your project using tools, relevant readings, and historical context from the DOC sequence. Conclude by reflecting on how your project turned out differently than you expected, and/or what you learned from the process of working on it. **NOTE: THIS SECTION IS WORTH THE MOST POINTS SO BE SURE TO PRESENT A THOUGHTFUL DOC ANALYSIS.**

Guidelines

- Students may work individually or in pairs, but not in groups of three or more.
- If students elect to work in pairs, the final project should reflect the work of two people or the grade will be reduced.
- TAs must approve all project proposals by end of week 7. Projects that are not approved by TAs in week 7 may have the final project grade reduced.

- If you wish to change your topic at any time, you do not need to write a new proposal, but you must consult with your TA for approval.
- See your TA for questions regarding the appropriate length of written projects (e.g., reflection piece, family narrative, short story, etc.).

NOTE: All written work must be typed, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins, 11 or 12-point font, with an appropriate title and headings.

Timeline

1. Rough draft **Proposal** (Step 1) – Due in the first section of Week 7. TA will approve your project in the second section of Week 7 OR by email.
2. Workshop your **Project** – In second section of Week 8. Students may work in pairs; TAs will offer guidance during section.
3. Workshop your **DOC Analysis** of your own project (Step 3) – In first section of Week 9. Students may work in pairs; TAs will offer guidance during section.

Due Date

The completed capstone project (all three components) will be due in the second section of Week 9, either Thursday, May 26 or Friday, May 27. The DOC analysis must also be uploaded to Turnitin.com before 4:00 p.m. on the due date for your section.

Late Projects

Final Projects submitted to TAs after section (May 26 or 27) will be considered late, and will have their grades lowered by 1/3 of a letter grade. Projects submitted the day after the due date will have their grades lowered by 2/3 of a letter grade. The penalty will increase accordingly for each additional day late. Please be in touch with your TA if you are expecting any problems meeting the deadlines.
