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Office hours: **virtual** Monday 9 - 11

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**Digital Project**

*Important dates:*

*Thursday, November 7: Use your journal as a project proposal*

*Week of November 18 (or earlier): See a writing tutor*

*Tuesday, November 19: NO CLASS (individual conferences)*

*Thursday, November 21: NO CLASS (individual conferences)*

*Tuesday, December 3: Project workshop in class*

*Thursday, December 5: Project due*

*Between Thursday, December 5 and Monday, December 9: Project Reflection Due*

What do you want to say about one of the topics in this course and how do you want to say it? All semester, we’ve been talking about the ways in which English is used globally, and this conversation will culminate in a final digital project. What aspect of using English globally interests you most? Take this as an opportunity to explore it digitally, whether that be through curating a project-specific social media feed, making a short podcast or video, creating an Instagram slide show, or something you design and suggest (more on that later). **Note: you may expand on the subject of your second essay for this project.** For example, if your social activity essay discussed the ways Black Lives Matter uses X and you want to curate an X feed of BLM tweets, you are welcome to do so. Or maybe you looked at awareness-raising campaigns for a specific cause and want to discuss one aspect of that cause or campaign in more depth in a short podcast. **This project must be original work, but you’re encouraged to use work you have already done as its foundation.**

Whatever route you decide to take, this project will include two parts which together will count for 20% of your final grade (both 178 and 278): 1) the project itself (10%) and 2) a reflection essay about the project (10%). In many ways, you get to design your own project for this assignment, and I encourage you to think creatively about what you might want to do. Whatever you decide, here are some guidelines to help you through.

*THE PROJECT ITSELF:*

**Project Proposal:**

You are strongly advised to use the Nov. 7 journal entry to lay out the details of your project—what do you want to do and how do you want to do it? Give yourself the chance to get my advice early in the process. If you decide you want to work as a pair or a team of 3, all members of the group can get credit for a single journal entry (you should all turn in a copy in your own journal). Your proposal should include:

* Members of your team (if appropriate)—3 members maximum
* Medium of your project (see below for details)
* Question you want to answer
* How your project fits into the theme of the course (remember the global aspect!)
* Any sources you’ve already identified (if appropriate)
* How your project is building on the Writing As Social Activity essay (if appropriate)

**The Project:**

You are not limited to the following ideas, but you are welcome to use any of them. While some projects will stand on their own and others will rely on your reflective essay (see below) for context, both aspects of the digital project will connect to each other.

* An Instagram/PowerPoint/Google slides/Canva slide deck on the course-appropriate topic of your choice. Length and content requirements will vary based on your topic and the number of partners you choose to work with (3 total people maximum).
* A curated feed (Twitter/X, TikTok, Instagram, or other platform) focused on a single topic. If I want to learn about a specific issue, what should I know? Who should I follow and why?
* A podcast of approximately 5 (solo) to 10 (pair/group) minutes. The podcast should be focused on a specific topic and at least loosely scripted, though I don’t recommend having a detailed script for pair or group podcasts—conversation will be more natural if it’s not fully scripted. Solo podcasts will likely go more smoothly if they *are* fully scripted. Your audience for the podcast will be the members of this class (though they won’t hear it unless you choose to share it with them). In the past, students have used the OBS Studio app and Anchor (which is easy to use and linked to Spotify) for their podcasts.
* A recorded TED-style talk (solo only) of approximately 5 - 8 minutes. TED talks can but do not have to include supplementary visuals (such as PowerPoint slides). They are geared to a general audience, so you should think carefully about what background information you would need to include.
* A short film, which can take many forms (discussion, interview, something else?), and should be approximately 5 minutes long. If you choose this option, we should talk about your topic and approach.
* A project of your choosing. What do you want to do? Let’s talk it over and see if we can make it happen!

Depending on your project, you may need to include any of the following supplementary materials (*note that a Works Cited page and access to your project is required for all projects*):

* Works Cited page (required)
* An invitation to edit your project (required)
* Notes
* Script
* Interview transcript
* Video transcript
* Anything else that will help put your project in context

Some tips from students who have taken this class in previous semesters:

* Start early!
* Choose your topic and your focus before choosing a format for the project.
* If you choose a video or audio format, write and record a single page of your script so you have a good idea of how much material you have to generate.
* Don’t be afraid to ask for help.

*REFLECTION ESSAY:*

Your reflection essay should be a *carefully considered* essay detailing your project. Think of it as a more formal version of the work you’ve been doing in your journal this semester. In fact, you are encouraged to use your final journal entries to talk about your project and process, then revise those entries as part of writing your reflection essay. ***Note: the reflection essay is a reflection of your work on the project, not a reflection about the entire course.***

The formatting requirements are minimal:

* 1,000 – 1500 words (both 178 and 278)
* MLA format
  + names/page numbers on every page (top right corner)
  + Works Cited and in-text citations
* Editing access to your document (10% penalty if you don’t send me an invitation to edit)

If your Works Cited page is the same as for your final project (no changes or additions), you may simply note that at the top of your reflection. You don’t have to turn it in twice.

And your reflection should address as many of these questions as are appropriate. I encourage you to go beyond single-sentence answers *and* to add whatever information you think I should have:

* What did you learn?
* What surprised you?
* What problems did you encounter?
* How did you solve them (if you did)?
* If you had more time, how would you take this project further? Why?
* Is there information you couldn’t fit into your project?
* Is there work that isn’t visible? Tell me about it here—get credit for all you’ve done!
* What advice would you give a student doing this project next year?
  + What do you wish you’d done differently?
  + What are you glad you did?