

Art 80F: Introduction to Issues in Digital Media
with Kyle Lane-McKinley
and Allie Riggs, Kelly Skye and Rolando Vargas, Teaching Assistants
Spring 2014

Assignment: “The Transdisciplinarity of Listening”

This assignment requires that you *talk* and, most importantly, *listen* to a scholar outside the Arts Division. Maybe this person is a friend or family member, maybe a TA or Professor from a different class you are taking, maybe a houseless person you met on the street, who happens to be an independent mathematician or sociologist. Maybe your sweetheart or best friend? “Scholar” can be loose here, but “listening” cannot.

Ask this person what the most exciting thing that (s)he has learned in her field recently is. Something that (s)he started to learn about, and just wanted to know more and more, even if no more is (yet) known. Ask this person to explain it to you well enough that you can teach someone else about it. Now figure out how to best explain this concept to someone else over the internets.

Maybe a stop-motion animation, *a la* http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOP2V_np2c0 ?

Maybe a game, *a la* <http://www.molleindustria.org/> ?

Maybe a series of drawings? Or photos? Or a youtube tutorial? Maps? Diagrams?

Whatever you think is the best way to convey this exciting research to a broader audience, using whatever tools (digital and otherwise) you are skilled with– that is the form that this assignment will take. Then put it on your website for this class.

After you have completed a draft of your presentation of this research, show it to the person you interviewed so that (s)he can certify that you got the story and the facts right, and offer suggestions for how to make it better.

Schedule of assignment:

Identify your interview subject immediately, and email your TA when you have completed your initial interview / listening session. You shall have completed that no later than the end of Week 5 (5/1/14).

Week 6 discussion sections are dedicated to “work-in-progress” critiques, the structure of which is to be determined by your TA. You will be graded based on what sort of progress you have made at this point. (week of 5/5/14-5/8/14).

Week 8 Completed assignments, posted to personal websites, to be critiqued in section. Volunteers are invited to present their completed projects to the whole class during lecture on Thursday 5/22/14.

