6.1

Hi Filipa,

We've enjoyed seeing your project develop over the semester, Filipa. You've written a solid project proposal to take you into your independent study next semester. What you have written is also a strong foundation for what could become an article for JITP or another journal when you complete your project.

Your project aims to support active learning in the English courses you teach by using annotation to allow students to practice strategies for reading that encourage engagement with the text. You have a good definition of the problem, and it's clear that this project will be of use in your own classes and likely for other instructors as well.

Your proposal narrative is strong and presents the context of the problem well. You address the theoretical context of annotation and quantification in education as it relates to both your proposed project and the tools/services you identified in your environmental scan. We appreciate that you bring in the work of Audrey Watters to support your project goals to make annotation empowering rather than exploitative tracking. We also appreciate your insightful question: “at what point does the implementation of these tools actually reduce or flatten the critical interventions that they are supposed to inspire?” You'll want to keep this and related questions in mind both as you develop your project and as you bring it into your teaching and reflect on its use.

The project timeline you propose is realistic and your scope is appropriate, including your acknowledgment that you might need to scale your work on this project down (or up) to complete your independent study in the 6-month timeframe. You make a clear-eyed assessment of your current skills and knowledge and have outlined a feasible plan to acquire what you need to complete the project. You might want to consider writing a brief plan for how you will use the modified version of Hypothes.is in your classes once your project is complete, and how you will incorporate student feedback, which could inform further development after your independent study (if that’s of interest to you). We'd also urge you to keep in mind as you plan your development how you might share back any enhancements you write into Hypothes.is down the line.

It's been great working with you in class this semester, Filipa, thanks for your contributions in class. We wish you the best of luck with your independent study project.

Paper grade: A
Class grade: A

4.16

Dear Filipa,

Your project proposes to fork a current annotation tool used in classrooms that seeks to enhance its pedagogical value by building additional functionality such as improved formatting capabilities and a more robust tagging system. You goal is to make annotations “more provocative and interactive.” Our feedback on your midterm is intended to help shape your final paper for ITP Core 2, which should in turn set up your independent study, and assumes that you accept the suggestions made during your presentation that you should be working towards a core commit rather than a fork of an existing open tool.

Your final paper should build upon prior work about the value of annotation for social approaches to reading and writing assignments, and **should ultimately make a stronger argument that the changes you propose will enhance that pedagogical value**. This argument might include conversations with current faculty using annotation in their courses (we can connect you to some). You also should select, relatively soon, which tool you seek to interrogate -- we’d urge you towards Hypothesis, here, as it seems much more robust, stable, and prevalent than the other tools. It’s also followed a fully open development process, one you should be able to review to determine whether or not your ideas have been priorly considered. Finally, you should review the development process for these tools -- (Hypothesis’s is detailed here: https://h.readthedocs.io/en/latest/developing/) -- to assess whether or not you have the skillsets that would allow you make a contribution given the timeframe and scope of the ITP Independent Study.

Ultimately, your paper for Core 2 should set you up to make a decision about which way you want to and can go with the independent study. **You should really dig down and be able to make a strong argument for what features you want to add, and why**. **And you should be able to provide much more detail than you currently have about the process by which you would add them**. Frankly, a single commit that makes it into the Hypothesis core, supported by documentation of the process and pedagogical argument for its necessity would be enough to satisfy the requirements of the ITP Independent Study. The remainder of your work for Core 2 should set you up to make a more informed decision about why this is necessary and if it is possible.

Best,
Luke and Maura

Luke - in person -
Proof of concept --- make it feasible. Show strategy for technical support.
Honest presentation of technical capacity, and then what I need to learn.

- Being able to learn from your mistakes and failure as part of the process.
- Demonstrate that you’ve learned something. Code doesn’t have to be live.

Meeting with Michael 5.10

- Need to play around with the code for “Proof of Concept”: Interface builds off of code
    - Can the existing interface handle one more option? Or do I have to build another layer of interface?
    - I need to show that I can make changes.
    - Make a diff. Just in the CSS file. Yellow → Green.
- Process:
    - Change the variable, to understand where it’s being called.
    - Eventually, you’ll want to add a new value, class, changing the color.
    - Having both values and being able to alternate; this is about structure.
    - After finding the element in CSS, search the rest of the code to see where it’s called. Colors are defined once and used elsewhere. Find the yellow.
    - Install it somewhere, how does that work?
- Static folder
- Sassy style sheets
- You can search multifile in text wrangler
- Partials / _base.scss (not here)
- _styled-text
    - When you highlight the text, it turns blue.
- $highlight
    - _base (defined)
- Annotation card hover (called)
- Developer tools, inspect CSS
    - CMD/option Shift C
    - On the developer tools, look at the CSS happening live
    - Be able to click on the element that is highlighted. You want to find the yellow.
    - This is how I should go about it.

Feedback/meeting notes:

- Theoretical needs
    - build upon prior work about the value of annotation for social approaches to reading and writing assignments
        - Environmental scan, especially hypothes.is and ponder.
        - Audrey Watters and the dangers of “edtech” --- critique of educational technology
        - The cyborg --- to what extent does this tool engage the body?
        - Lacuna stories on JITP
    - Include conversations with current faculty using annotation in their courses.
        - Jeffrey Allred

        - H has a fully open development process, one you should be able to review to determine whether or not your ideas have been priorly considered. They have done X, Why haven't they done Y?
            - Jeremy Dean:
        - Make a stronger argument that the changes you propose will enhance that pedagogical value. What is the nature of my pedagogical critique?
            - Affect
            - Provocation versus prescriptive --- how do you get students to think most deeply through using colors?
- Proof of concept needs
    - A mock-up of different colors.
    - A peek into the code, where to find it.
    - Show strategy for technical support -- documentation, slack channel, resources.
    - Assess whether or not I have the skillsets to make a contribution in the given time. Be honest about my worries/insecurities, but focus the proof of concept on the mock up.

- **You should really dig down and be able to make a strong argument for what features you want to add, and why**. **And you should be able to provide much more detail than you currently have about the process by which you would add them**.

(this may be saved for later…. No time!)

- The proof of concept for myself, for my own insecurities: To prove I can technically modify this tool. I will fork my own version of the project, and alter the CSS code in some way, and see whether it works on my own version of the tool. The purpose is not only to prove that I can make changes (without breaking the tool), but to have an opportunity to play around and get to know the Hypothesis libraries on Github.