

IN THIS ASSIGNMENT, YOU WILL TAKE ONE OF THE PAPERS YOU HAVE WRITTEN SO FAR THIS SEMESTER, AND RE-WRITE IT, RE-PACKAGE IT, RE-SEE IT DRASTICALLY, FOR A BRAND NEW AUDIENCE. THIS IS AN EVEN MORE DRASTIC CHANGE THAN YOUR LAST REVISION. I'M ASKING YOU TO CHANGE GENRES PRETTY COMPLETELY—MAKE IT A TOTALLY DIFFERENT FORM OF WRITING.

## **WHAT DO YOU MEAN?**

What if you took your first paper on educational experiences and made it a video essay? Perhaps one with interviews? Or what if you made your "portrait of a word" essay into a comic book, a poster or a website? That's what I'm asking for here, a drastic RE-VISION. I want you to re-think your essay in a whole new way. I also want you to have fun! This is an opportunity for you to play to your strengths. If you're really great at design or drawing, now is a good time to use those skills. If you're great with computers, now might be a good time to make a web page or even a video game. Please see the attached list of genres for ideas.

My point here is that the assignment begins with audience: who are you trying to reach, what are you trying to tell them, and what is the best way to reach them? (More or less) anything goes, as long as it is appropriate to the audience and not offensive (by which I mean, racist, sexist, homophobic, etc-- I don't consider swearing offensive.) Whatever you make here, I want you to do some writing. I can't give you an exact word count-- that will vary, but I will tell you need at LEAST 600 words (spoken words on video count) and the fewer words you have, the better they must be. YOU MUST ALSO HAVE A VISUAL ELEMENT.



ALSO, YOU MAY NOT DO A POWER POINT PRESENTATION.

## SOME GENRES WE'VE LOOKED AT THIS SEMESTER:

- The Literacy Narrative
- The Academic Essay
- The Music Review
- The Lyrical Analysis
- The Position Paper
- The Spoken Word Poem
- The Video Essay (many types, in fact)
- The Persuasive SpeechThe How-To





You will largely get graded on: Appropriateness for your audience, Effectiveness of message, and Care. What do I mean by this?

- 1. Appropriateness for audience: Well, first of all, a puppet show is not appropriate for a city council meeting any more than a brochure is appropriate for a preschool class, so , in part, I'm talking about what genre you choose. But I am also talking about topic and diction. If we take the examples of the preschool and the city council meeting, it's pretty easy to think about. Learning how to use the toilet isn't a real city council topic, and commercial zoning laws aren't a real preschool topic. Likewise, you would use different diction (and fonts, and pictures, and so on) with kids and with politicians. Usually.
- 2. Effectiveness of message: This one is simple to explain, though not always simple to DO. Does your point get across to your intended audience?
- 3. Care: This sounds pretty vague, because it's going to vary by genre, but basically, this is how much of a finished product you turn in. If this is a more formal paper, or a children's book, or a brochure for the city council, it should be relatively free of grammatical "error." If you are writing in Brooklyn English, that's fine (if it fits your audience, of course,) but you still need to be consistent and free of typos and your project needs to look good. In other words, you need to be able to explain why everything that's on the page (or in the video, or on the webpage, or in the recording, etc) is THERE.

