

Kim Haimes-Korn – Writing In Collaborative Spaces

Assignment - Multimodal Radical Revision

Cultural/Communal Spaces: Each of you participated on a team to conduct a critique of interesting cultural spaces – the mall, Walmart and and Cool Beans – an independent coffee shop. We really learned from each other how these physical spaces are affected by and through small group communication and collaborative theories. You presented your ideas in an academic format and for an academic audience. For this next assignment I would like you to use the same data sources and observations but switch the audience, purpose and format as you incorporate multimodal composition for a general, online audience.

Radical Revision: This revision of your project will be what is called a "radical revision" which entails not only an extension and refinement of your ideas, but also a shift in your project's voice, purpose, audience, style, and format. This radical revision is meant to challenge you by causing you to look at something familiar in a radically different way and to give you a chance to experiment with different types of multimodal composition and digital presentation. For this revision you will concentrate on style, voice and format as you present your ideas in a way that is radically different than your earlier team version.

Going Multimodal: Multimodal texts use more than words to communicate ideas. They combine or remix several modes together to create something new. Modes might include, "audio, video, photographs, text, drawings, comic strips, storyboards, podcasts, Ted Talks, slideshows, collage, and other interactive forms. See online resources for definitions and strategies.

Individual and Collaborative: Although you will use your collaborative team research, data and images for this assignment each student will create their OWN individual multimodal interpretation. Although you and your teammates all observed the same space, this revision gives you the chance to include your individual perspectives. You will all draw from the same data sources but will remix them through your own lenses for a public audience and include them in your blog.

PLAY. Be Creative... I would also like you to play and experiment with this piece and make it more interesting for a general audience. This means you can incorporate humor, cultural critique, music, movement, collage, images, text and outside sources (with citation, of course). Think viral ;-). You will still need to draw from the main ideas and findings from your project but you will recast them through this multimodal lens.

Think carefully about the ways you might express your ideas in a different digital form. Be as creative as you want with this assignment (we will talk about creative and right brain thinking in the class). You might work with images that somehow symbolize your ideas or you might incorporate parts, images, video clips, quotes/ideas, from the written report, field notes or presentation. You can use the pictures you took as part of the revision.

Even though you shift your approach, I expect you to incorporate what we know to be effective communication. By that I mean we will be looking for evidence that you are taking up the issues brought up in your project. You should not sacrifice the deep meanings and elaborated experiences you arrived at as you shift forms. We will look for you to move beyond the surface of your ideas, use purposeful detail, have an awareness of your voice and language and connect to your ideas through the lens of your own experiences and the theories and concepts of the class. You are still expected to substantiate your ideas and balance between observations and inferences. This assignment asks you to closely consider style and format as you re-see your subject.

Parameters:

- Must be digital and multimodal.
- Make it relatively short -- similar to the average You-tube video – no more than 3-4 mins.
- Incorporate both text and image
- Incorporate data, images, quotations, ideas, concepts, group findings from the original project.
- Communicate the essence of your cultural space.
- Communicate your individual perspective on the project.
- Must be geared for a general, internet audience.
- Use any tools or software that you like – check out what is out there. Maybe try something new.
- You will need to embed the project into your blog and create an appropriate context statement. Give the blog post a title and explain your processes and purposes for your multimodal project. Let people know the tools you used and how you took the original ideas and radically revised them for this assignment. Introduce and contextualize your project. Remember to create this context statement for a general audience as well.

Resources:

There are many online resources to help you with this project. Check out articles, videos and other links to help you define and think more deeply about multimodal texts.