

Remediation Project
Assignment Description
Proposal/design plan due October 13th
Project/reflective memo due November 5th

Purpose

Many of the works of electronic literature available on the web are remediated texts. In context of our continuing discussion of what electronic literature is and what makes it literature, you will be creating your own hypertext or new media text by remediating an already-existing print text. As we have discussed, PDFs of print texts or poems just put onto a website do not necessarily qualify as electronic literature. This assignment will illustrate the difference in composing a text for a medium (and reinforcing the idea that “The Medium is the Message,” or at least part of it) and putting a text that already exists in another form into the medium (The medium is the container). To do this, the remediated text must NEED the medium in some way—visuals, links, movement, sound, etc.

Method

This assignment has three parts:

Proposal/design plan: A written document stating the work you plan to remediate, why, and a sketch or description of how it will be designed (what software and what it will look like). These need to be printed out and handed in on October 14th, as I will not have time to speak with everyone in class.

Project: You are required to upload this project to the web! Although you will most likely need Dreamweaver as a container for that, the software you use to create your project is up to you; multimedia can be added to a web-page and uploaded to the web. You must make the medium necessary by doing something with your text that cannot be done without the medium. This could include links, video, movement, and/or sound.

Reflective memo: A 2-3 page memo reflecting on your remediation experience and commenting on it in the greater scope of electronic literature. Talk about why you chose the text and the medium you did, your composition processes and design choices—what went well, what didn’t go so well, what worked, what didn’t, etc.

Questions to consider: How does remediating this text change it? What elements did you choose to add to the piece in the remediation process and why? Is it the same text or has it acquired new meaning through the medium? Is it “better” or just different? Why do you think so? Now that you have it completed, what would you do differently? How do you think remediating an existing text and composing for the medium are different processes? What does that mean to you as a composer of electronic texts, about to compose one on your own?

Audience

Your instructor and your classmates. Someone browsing around the great WWW for this text?

Length & Format

For the project: one formerly print text in an electronic format and posted to your webspace.

For the reflective memo: 2-3 pages. MEMO format. STAPLED, double spaced, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins, etc. You will need citations for the course readings and print literature you are remediating.

This assignment (including the proposal/design plan and reflective memo) is worth 20% of your final grade.