

Final Individual Project Assignment Description

Proposal memo/design plan due November 12th

Final project and reflective memo due December 10th

Purpose

The final project is a culmination of the previous units. You will be composing your own original work of electronic literature for the medium based on what you have learned over the course of the semester. You should consider electronic elements you have seen that worked or did not work, forms that were appropriate for the medium and those that were not. Think about the purpose of electronic literature and create a project with your readers in mind. For example, are you most intrigued by fragmented text linked and read in various orders creating different narratives or are you most interested in new media texts that move and rely or don't rely on reader interaction/navigation? What kind of designs have you seen that you liked? What do you want the readers of your work to come away with? Above all, be creative (even with a more research project) and consider how electronic and textual elements can work together to create meaning in a work of literature.

Method

This assignment has three parts:

Proposal/design plan: A written document stating the nature of your project and a sketch or description of how it will be designed (what software and what it will look like). These need to be well-planned out—where you will have links, how many web pages you plan on having, what level of interactivity, etc. These need to be printed out and handed in on November 13th, as I will not have time to speak with everyone in class. (We will be doing a brainstorming session, however, to help clarify your ideas.)

Project: Your project must be original compositions created specifically for an electronic medium as a work of electronic literature. You may do a creative project or, as I stated in class, you have the option of doing a more research-based project that is related to the course and suited to an electronic form. Learning the software while you compose this project is a given, so don't let your current technological abilities hinder your ideas. You have more time and more workshop time to compose something unique and polished so please take advantage of that. We will also workshop these projects in class, so attendance and staying on schedule are vital.

Reflective memo: A 5-7 page memo reflecting on your composition process and an analysis of your own work in the greater scope of electronic literature and the course readings specifically. Also address this project in relation to the others you completed for the course, how composing for the medium reinforces (or not depending on your experience) McLuhan's "the medium is the message". And, finally, comment on the present state of electronic literature—its origins and where you think it's headed in the future.

Audience

Your instructor and your classmates. The Electronic Literature Organization? 😊

Length & Format

For the project: one complete and amazing work of electronic literature, project burned to a disk and posted to your web space (with exception).

For the reflective memo: 5-7 pages. MEMO format. STAPLED, double spaced, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins, etc. You will need citations for all theory or e-literature you are citing, and descriptions and attributions for any screen shots, etc.

This assignment (including the proposal/design plan and reflective memo) is worth **30%** of your final grade.