

Midterm Creative Presentation for EN201

During Week 8 (Tuesday, March 1st), you will present to the class a creative project you have produced. This assignment is worth 25% of your final grade, so please take it seriously (200=midterm; 25=topic proposal; 25=conference).

What you will do:

1. Decide what you will do for your creative project, choosing one of the options from below or proposing your own. You can work in pairs or individually. However, if you work in pairs, your project will need to reflect that. In other words, your project should be twice as awesome!
2. Write a topic proposal memo addressed to me that details what you plan to do. Be specific - Tell me the form your project will take, your thesis or focus, any supporting points and/or examples, and the sources you anticipate using. Also, include any questions or concerns you might have. Due Tuesday, February 16th by 8:45am. Email to stacey.kikendall@park.edu You must address all of the previous details in order to receive full credit (25 points).
3. Produce the project, which should reflect the literature we read in class. Please feel free to discuss the project with me at any point in your process. If you are producing a written piece (a fictional narrative or research paper), it should be *at least* 6 pages. Your project must have a clear creative component. Thus, if you are doing a research paper or something similar, you will need to have a poster or visual component to explain your process and research (students in the past have researched food in a particular time period and shown pictures and brought samples). Remember when choosing your topic to play to your strengths - creative writing, acting or directing, painting or photography, dancing or singing, researching, cooking, or designing websites. For example, I had a student in teacher education create a children's book. Your project should be well-organized, neatly presented, and thoroughly edited. It should reflect significant effort.
4. In addition to the project itself, write a 3 page (minimum) reflection on what you did, why you made the choices you did, the theoretical or philosophical implications of your project, and its significance as it relates to this class. I also want to know how hard you worked to create your project - did you plan and practice, or did you write it all the night before you presented? What kinds of obstacles did you have to overcome to do this project? If you worked in groups, how was the work divided up? Did everyone contribute equally? You should also include a Works Cited page listing all the sources you used for the project.
5. Give an 8-10 minute (pairs time is doubled) presentation to the class explaining your project and its significance. How does your project connect to our class? How does it give a new perspective or greater understanding of the literature we read? You can use your reflection piece as a guide, although I expect you to share an excerpt or example from the project itself. For example, if you make a video, I would like you to give a brief summary of it and then show an excerpt. Similarly, if you write a short story, I would like you to give a brief summary of it and

then read an excerpt. Your presentation should be well-prepared, clear, and easy to understand. End your presentation with 1-2 discussion questions for the class. The questions should link the project to our class readings and/or discussions.

NOTE: If you plan to use technology, make sure you check ahead of time for compatibility or access issues. Also, please plan to come 5-10 minutes early to class to set up.

Options for Project:

Whatever option you choose, it should relate to the literature we have read and discussed in class the first half of the semester. So you can choose to focus on broader topics, such as “Dysfunctional Relationships” or “Relationships with Places”, or whole genres (poetry, fiction, drama, etc). Or you can choose to focus on more individual aspects of the literature, such as a single author or text, or a few from the same time period or location.

- Write and perform a dialogue that reflects the literature we've read
- Turn one of the texts we've read into a screen play or theatrical play
- Create a photo narrative with an explanation of how it reflects the literature
- Create an art piece that reflects the literature
- Create a dance reflecting the literature
- Produce a film (fictional narrative or documentary) that reflects the literature
- Set up a website that reflects the literature
- Create a poster or powerpoint that explores a topic/theme found in the literature
- Read and analyze the longer version of an excerpt we discussed in class or the whole collection from which one of our readings was taken
- Do in-depth research on a particular literary tradition, genre, author, or text from class
- In connection with the narratives we've read, research a detail mentioned in the text and explain why it is so important
- Write a series of lesson plans to introduce the literature to children
- Put two (or more) of the authors we've read in conversation with one another
- Find references in modern culture to a text or texts we've read, analyze how and why they are being used
- Compare and analyze different translations of a text
- Suggest your own!

Deadlines:

Tues 2/16 Topic Proposal due

Tues 3/1 Presentations to class; Project and Reflective Essay due