

Digital Archive Assignment

This assignment is meant to emphasize the following:

- (A) Use of Primary Evidence
- (B) Developing Critical Thinking Skills
- (C) Developing Digital Literacy
- (D) Use of Visual and Written Rhetoric through Multimodality
- (E) Writing and Editing with Peers

All of these points are in conjunction with the Colorado Council on Higher Education's goals for upper division writing. In groups of 2-3 students will prepare a website through Wordpress. Here are the first steps:

1. Decide group and pick an object or collection of objects from the Media Archaeology Lab
2. Create a wordpress website.
3. Invite all group members as editors for that wordpress website

Each website should have sections or pages on the following:

1. Blog- I want students to keep track of their progress on this assignment. Blog entries will reflect the following:
 - (A) First impressions- what are your initial reactions to the object and the assignment?
 - (B) Difficulties encountered- what difficulties are there in describing or working with your object? What difficulties are you having with learning about your object?
 - (C) Information- How are you searching for information on your object? What difficulties or successes are you having?
 - (D) Website creation- How are you planning on using visual rhetoric? What are some of the problems with your website? How are you allocating work?
 - (E) General progress- Keep a log of how you are approaching your object and what work you are doing

There is no set number of blog entries however I would like each group member to contribute at least to 2 entries. Blog entries can be at minimum 300 words, maximum 500 words (approximately)

2. Introduction - This page should introduce site visitors to the main project you are working on. Length: 250 words
3. Information- You should have a space in which you provide images and basic information to help orient your reader about your objects. Example include size, weight, approximate price, programs available, configuration, date of creation, secondary literature available on it. Accompanying this include photos which support the evidence you have gathered.
4. History- Give a brief history of your object. The length may vary depending on the age and complications within the history itself. Make sure to cite secondary sources. Length: minimum 1500 words, maximum 2000 words (approximately)
5. Concepts- Have sections or pages dedicated to discussing and critically engaging with concepts or theories. You are welcome and encouraged to look through the Theory Toolbox book as well as *Reading Writing Interfaces* for concepts or theories to address. Each group should have 2-3

main concepts. This is where the “civic” comes in. Based off our list of “civic” issues here are some ideas: gender, LGBTQ, amendment rights, copyright, judicial systems, corporate influence, acts of resistance, writing and publishing, communication, social media, race, authority, class, socio-economic status, accessibility, knowledge production, education, advertising, new media engagement. Each concept should be approximately 2000-2500 words. Try to have 1 concept per group member (although you can collaborate on this).

Roughly this assignment will require each group member to contribute 3150-4000 words. However work can be divided any way the group sees fit. This project is meant to strengthen communication skills and understanding a collaborative process to writing.