

CTW 2
McIsaac
Spring 2019

Final Project: A Video Essay

Write a flash nonfiction piece on a topic of your choice and create a video essay of it with images and sound. We'll view models in class.

Topic: The topic is wide open. Video is a powerful medium. You have a few minutes before a captive audience. What do you want to share with them?

Suggestions:

- A piece about the Lazear 4th graders and our project with them—or a topic that relates to some of the education and food sustainability issues we explored around this project.
- A revision of part of one of your researched essays, using a more informal tone.
- Something completely new that is of personal importance

Style:

- Aim for a style that is informal and creative, not academic or scholarly.
- Consider using the first person to heighten intensity
- Consider using repetition for rhythm.
- Pay careful attention to language. Every word matters in such a short piece.
- Pay careful attention to varying sentence length.

Length: 250-400 words. Your video should be between 1 ½ minutes- 4 minutes.

Due: Wed. 3/13/19

Images: You may use anything that fits in a compelling way with your words: very brief video clip, your own photos, stock photos (but do limit these) any kind of artwork—your own or something you find on the internet—postcards, letters. . .

Audio: All of you will have the sound of your essay being read aloud by you. You may add music or other sounds if you like. When reading your essay, pay careful attention to:

- Pacing: not too fast, not too slow. Aim to vary your pacing a bit. Build in occasional pauses.
- Expression: no monotone. Put emotion into your voice. Emphasize some word/phrases

Examples of flash nonfiction that would work well for a video essay:

<https://www.riverteethjournal.com/blog/2018/12/17/miracle-at-delancey-street>

<https://www.riverteethjournal.com/blog/2018/12/10/hair-and-nails>

<https://www.riverteethjournal.com/blog/2018/12/03/standoff-at-wolf-creek>

<https://www.riverteethjournal.com/blog/2018/09/24/my-grandmothers-pie-plate>