

A More Perfect Union - Digital Storytelling Assignment

A digital story is a video that mixes the voice of the author telling a story with photos, video clips, text, sounds, and background music to produce an original piece that has an impact on the viewer. The best way to understand digital stories is to watch some. You can go to storycenter.org and browse the archive.

Your assignment is to create a digital story answering the essential question, "How do you see yourself helping to making America a more perfect union?"

Your story must fulfill the following requirements:

- Be at least three but no longer than five minutes long
- Include a script which you will read, visual images, and an introductory title
- Include a description of at least one moment during the project that changed your perspective on the essential question
- Credit any non-original work

Due: At the end of the project, exact date to be determined. For now, think mid-November

What do I need to do?

- Use the journaling time I give you productively so you have five times the thoughts, impressions, feelings, and questions that you need to write a compelling script.
- Document moments during the project that you feel are or might be important: take photos, shoot video, record sounds, copy music that relates to the essential question
- Identify important old photos, home movies, papers, objects, personal items, etc. related to the essential question that you might want to include in your story
- Figure out what video editing software you want to use. Some options include: Windows Movie Maker, Final Cut, iMovie, or Adobe Premiere.

Evaluation: We will define what beautiful work means for this assignment and how you wish to assess your stories. We will decide on a final grade for your video during a conference. The journal entries and final video will count toward Reflective Learning in the gradebook.

Why are we doing this?

- The digital storytelling format facilitates deep reflection and truth telling that is authentic to the individual--just the kind of thinking that we want you to do as an Animas student
- Putting together a digital story ups your digital and media game
- It will give you a great product to show people that you're a smart, thoughtful person. You will post it on your DP and can potentially include it as part of your college application