

Thinking Digitally

Final Group Project

Throughout the course, you have encountered and will be encountering, a wide array of ideas about the imaginative, analytical ways in which you can work with a variety of digital tools and concepts. You have also discussed ethical and philosophical ideas that intersect with digital matters. You now have the opportunity to pull all of these ideas together a digital project. As you make your way through the rest of the course, think about how you can synthesize these ideas in a final project.

What is the Project?

This is a chance for you to implement some of the tools, ideals, and concepts you have learned about or worked with this semester. You may choose to do an analytical or creative project, using elements from any off the units of the class.

- Create an project that analytically answers a question or that creatively responds to a concept from class
- Implement something from the class - both **technology** and **ideas**
- Present your project at our fair in a form of your choosing
- Reflect on your project
- We encourage you to use materials and/or questions related to Walla Walla or Whitman College for your project

The Plan:

- **You will be divided into groups on April 24th**
- Each group will be assigned faculty/staff mentors at that time. Your mentor(s) will review the proposal for your project, provide feedback and meet with the group at least one more time before you complete your project.

Between now and then:

- **Make notes**
 - Write down all the tools, ideas etc. you have learned from the **Data Visualization Unit** that might be interesting to you as you imagine a project.
 - **Take a few minutes after each class** from now on to write down ideas about how concepts/tools/ideas learned could be part of a project. **Keep these notes in a Google Doc.**

With your group:

1. **Design a Proposal:** Share your pre-writing notes with your group members. Pick the subject matter that your group would like to focus on for the project. **Answer the following questions in a blog post by April 26th.**

- What is the key question(s) to which you hope to respond?
- What will your data or source material be?
- How can you collect/create it?
- What technology will you use (or make) to analyze it or to create with it?
- How do you want to present your project on our final day (in a poster, in an online demonstration etc.)?

2. Craft your Project

- After receiving feedback on your proposal from your mentor(s), you will begin working on your project. Some instructors will be present to advise during all class periods on which you are working on your project.
- There will be class labs at the end of the semester in which you can work on your project with assistance from faculty and staff. But you will also want to meet with your group outside class time.

3. Reflect on your project

- Each group will fill out a questionnaire that will be used to create an “About Page” for your final project. You will be expected to (briefly) answer the following questions:
- Describe your project. What were its aims?
- How does this project fit into the course and reflect on course content? Think about how you used digital concepts and tools and responded to discussions about data we had in class.
- How did the end results turn out in relation to your earlier aims?
- How did the process of creating unfold?
- Did you come across moments of failure? How did you respond to them?
- How might this expand into a large project had you world enough and time?

4. Present your project

- The class will hold a fair to showcase your final projects on Thursday, May 11 at 4:30. Be prepared to present your project to your instructors and fair visitors, answer questions about your project, and to demonstrate it as much as you are able.