7-2024

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES FOR FINAL GROUP PROJECT - Digitally Amplifying and Preserving Refugee Experiences and Perspectives

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Digitally Amplifying and Preserving Refugee Experiences and Perspectives

PURPOSE

This semester-long group project is strategically designed to address historical underrepresentation by providing a platform for refugees to authentically share their stories while emphasizing the value of embodied experiences.

The digital resources utilized will offer refugees absolute control over their narratives by foregrounding their lived experiences while allowing for immersive storytelling. Creative use of digital tools and platforms will provide unique opportunities to foster understanding while conveying the rich complexities of refugee experiences.

OVERVIEW

Students will partner with local refugee support organization such as New Arrivals Institute, Center for New North Carolinians, and Every Campus a Refuge to conduct oral history interviews capturing resettlement stories in our community. Students will then work together in groups to create a public-facing website that highlights refugees' experiences, histories, and traditions while emphasizing their agency and resilience. The public-facing, interactive nature of digital exhibits ensures the preservation and dissemination of refugee narratives to broader audiences.

OUTCOMES

By contributing to this oral history archiving, students will gain firsthand perspective on the systemic inequities underlying migration while envisioning policy changes to make society more welcoming.

GROUP SIZE

18–20 (split into groups of 4–5)

MATERIALS

Audio recording device, notebook, and pens/pencils.

Preparation

- Students will research best practices for oral history gathering and especially focus on ethical considerations while doing research with Immigrant and Refugee communities.
- Students will complete their CITI training.
- Students will complete and submit their IRB applications.
- Coordinate logistics with community contacts and resettlement agencies (e.g., Every Campus a Refuge).

Oral History Interviews

- Record one-on-one conversations guided by prepared questions.
- Collect any relevant photos, artifacts, creative expressions to incorporate into the Storymaps.
- Transcribe and edit audio clips as necessary.
- Upload to our public-facing Refugee Narratives website (we'll share the login information with you in class).

Craft StoryMaps for Public Sharing

- **Please create an account on the ArcGIS StoryMap website and create your Storymap there:** ArcGIS StoryMap Login
- Select or create at least 5 or more photographs/maps/graphs/videos that contemplate your oral history interview.
- Create a story map with these images (please remember to caption each image).
- Upload to our public-facing Refugee Narratives website (we'll share the login information with you in class).