

Final Project

Objective: This project is a marriage of classic storytelling and digital tools. You will propose your story idea and build a website for the final project using all the skills gained during the course. We will use WordPress as a CMS on your server and incorporate other skills you learned in this class with it.

Deadlines:

1. Proposal: Due 11/15 by 11:59:59 p.m. (Worth 5%)
2. Progress report: 11/28 in class (Worth 3%)
3. Project presentations: 12/5 & 12/7 in class (Worth 3%)
4. Final project due: 12/9, 7:29:59 p.m. (**no late assignments accepted**)

Email your URL to the instructor. Ex. <http://subdomain.yourURL.com/>
Email subject must be: MC4315 Final Project Your Name

Combined, this project is 35% of your final grade.

Requirements:

1. Create a complete, five-page website using package on wordpress.org, including interface design, navigation and content.
2. This should be a reporting project. All content will be your own original work. You'll arrange appropriate interviews, photos and recordings as necessary. Contact appropriate sources. You must take all images used on the site.
3. Carefully plan sections, and organize your time to allow for creating appropriate graphics, obtain photos, video clips and other information.
4. Each student needs to write at least two text pieces, at least 500 words each, for the site. Organize your stories and your multimedia components according to the principles of writing for the Web.
5. At least three multimedia components: Your site must include at least one video (or more), one photo slideshow/gallery and one data visualization component. For each multimedia component, include a title and one short paragraph of text describing what the multimedia component is about. Each page should have at least one image. Each page should have at least one external link that opens in a new tab. At least one of the pages will include the date last updated.

6. The site should include at least five different sections, represented by five pages. Create appropriate navigation.
7. Among those pages, you need to have an About page to include a photo of you, contact information and any other information about you that is pertinent to the topic.
8. The emphasis on this project is storytelling and informational reporting. It should not be a hobby, portfolio or personal site.
9. You do not need to upload files through Fetch for this project. Your final URL should be: <http://subdomain.yourURL.com>
10. Make sure this project is linked to on your assignment page.

Proposal (Due 11/15 by 11:59:59 p.m.)

1. Come up with different story ideas. Discuss and decide on one. Send me an email that outlines your idea. I will need the story angle, story significance, people you hope to interview and pages you hope your site will contain.
2. Your pitch must contain ideas for required multimedia components: a video, a photo gallery and a data visualization component (i.e. interactive map, calendar, infographic, etc.)
3. Your topic MUST be an issue that is timely and journalistic in nature. Your job is to tell a story that matters or is compelling.

Progress Report: (Due 11/28 in class)

1. You will be required to have your own specific home page completed by this point.
2. You should have the theme and site structure in place.
3. You will need to have at least one of the multi-media components finished and ready for me to watch/see.
4. At least one of the 500-word text pieces needs to be completed.

Presentation (12/5 and 12/7 in class)

1. You will present your story project to the class.
2. Your project does not need to be 100% completed by this presentation, but you should be close. You will still have additional time to finish it.
3. You will explain why the story is important, share the story, share your site so far and share any multimedia you have completed.