

Peer Workshopping

Urban Studies 101, Spring 2017

Assignment 6: Developing a Digital Public Education Tool

On Monday May 15th, we will spend the class sharing and giving/getting feedback on each other's project proposals, and thinking through any points for collaboration amongst the different. I have arranged you in groups strategically to allow for this latter point.

In order to make this day a success, students will need to bring pieces of their projects and their vision for the final product, which other students can then give feedback on.

To Prepare:

- Print and bring any drafts, images, videos, etc of the content you have been working on. If you don't have any drafts at the moment, this is something you may want to prioritize in the lead up to this day.
- Think through your 'story arc' – What is your main point and what is the different content/sections of your content that will get this point across?
- What digital tool are you using and why?
- How will this information be arranged in the digital tool? (For some, this may be the same as your 'story arc', but for those of you using WordPress or StoryMaps, you'll have to think more about how you want to arrange the content).
- Bring questions you have, things you need feedback on and challenges to completion you foresee.

For collaborative groups:

- How can you integrate (parts of) your projects in a way that makes both projects better and deeper?

In providing feedback, you should consider:

- What is the main objective of the project?
- How well is this conveyed in the presentation of the content?
 - Is there an introduction and conclusion that adequately conveys and sums up the main objective?
 - Is the evidence/research used convincing and sufficient in supporting the project's main objective?
- Does the technology seem appropriate given the objective of the project and the presentation of the information? (if the student is planning to use images, video, text, etc – does the technology support this?).
- Are the visuals the student plans to include appropriate given the objective of the project and the angle of approach?
- In general, is the presentation such that a member of the general public would be able to follow and learn from the project?
- What could the group/student do differently that would improve their project?
 - A different technology?
 - Additional content or evidence?
 - Infusion of course material (what weeks, readings?)
 - Different visuals, audio?

Some guidelines for giving 'good' feedback:

- Be attentive: Your feedback can only be as good as your understanding of the project.
- Be constructive: don't say 'this works, that doesn't', explain your rationale behind your opinion, and offer suggestions for improvement.
- Be specific: Rather than saying something is confusing, identify what is confusing about that part of the project (point to a specific phrase and explain what makes it confusing as best as you can).
- Be positive: point out strengths as well weaknesses, and be sensitive in how you phrase your criticism ("Could you clarify this section? Rather than "Your organization is a mess.")
- Be honest: Don't say something works when it doesn't. This doesn't help anyone.

SOURCES: This document was comprised with input from the following two documents:

- [10 Strategies to Make Peer Review Meaningful for Students](#)
- [Handout for Effective Peer Review](#), From the Writing Center at Colorado State University