



Genealogical Research and Film 6-12

Student reFraming Grant Project

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COURSE PREREQUISITES.

NONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

THIS PROJECT IS OFFERED IN ASSISTANCE TO A GRANT FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC INTERACTION WITH PUBLIC HISTORICAL RECORDS. MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESEARCH PUBLIC ARCHIVES SUCH AS CENSUS RECORDS, MARRIAGE, BIRTH, DEATH RECORDS, ETC. IN SEARCH OF INFORMATION REGARDING AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE LANDOWNERS IN THE ALABAMA BLACK BELT.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand Genealogy: Students will learn the basics of genealogical research and its importance in understanding personal and cultural history.
2. Conduct Research: Students will develop research skills by investigating their own family history or that of a historical figure.
3. Creative Expression: Students will express their findings creatively through video storytelling.
4. Technical Skills: Students will gain experience in video production, including scripting, filming, and editing.
5. Presentation Skills: Students will present their video projects to the class, honing their public speaking and presentation abilities.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- Computers with internet access
- Video recording equipment (smartphones, cameras)
- Video editing software (e.g., iMovie, Adobe Premiere)

- Family tree templates
- Research guides and resources
- Assessment rubric

WEEK	TOPIC	READING / ASSIGNMENT
1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce the concept of genealogy and its significance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain the project objectives and final deliverable: a 5-10 minute video documentary of their genealogical research. - Provide resources and guides on how to start genealogical research. - Assign students to start gathering basic information about their family history (interviewing family members, collecting photos, documents). - **Homework**: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a simple family tree using the information gathered. - Write a brief summary of an interesting family story or historical connection they discovered.
2	Deepening Research and Scripting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teach students how to use online public databases and other research tools. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the elements of a good story and how to structure a documentary. - Help students refine their family trees with more detailed information. - Start scripting the video project, focusing on the key stories and themes they want to highlight. - **Homework**: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue research, seeking out additional

		<p>information, documents, and interviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete a draft script for the video, including an outline of scenes and dialogue.
3	Filming and Gathering Media	<p>Provide a tutorial on basic filming techniques (lighting, sound, framing).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the importance of B-roll footage and supplementary visuals. - Assist students in planning their filming schedule and locations. - Begin filming interviews, narration, and other essential scenes. <p>- **Homework**:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Film additional footage and gather any other necessary media (photos, documents). - Review and organize the collected media.
4	Editing and Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teach the basics of video editing using the chosen software. - Discuss the importance of pacing, transitions, and adding music/sound effects. - Begin editing the footage into a cohesive story, following the script. - Provide individual assistance as needed. <p>- **Homework**:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue editing the video, refining the cuts and adding final touches. - Ensure all elements (titles, credits, music) are properly integrated.

5	Finalizing and Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a peer review session where students can watch each other's rough cuts and provide feedback. - Make final edits based on peer and instructor feedback. - Discuss presentation skills and techniques for introducing their videos. - Finalize the video projects and prepare for presentation. <p>**Homework**:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practice the presentation and prepare to introduce the video to the class. - Ensure all project files are backed up and ready for submission.
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ASSESSMENT

- **Participation:** Active involvement in all activities and discussions.
- **Research Quality:** Depth and accuracy of genealogical research.
- **Creativity and Storytelling:** Engaging and coherent script and narrative.
- **Technical Skills:** Proficiency in filming and editing techniques.
- **Presentation:** Clarity, confidence, and effectiveness in presenting the final video.

Rubric

Criteria	Excellent 3pts	Good 2pts	Needs Improvement 1pt
Participation	Consistently active and engaged	Mostly active and engaged	Rarely active and engaged
Research	In-depth, accurate, and detailed	Mostly accurate and detailed	Inaccurate and/or very limited detail

Creativity/Storytelling	Highly engaging and coherent	Generally engaging and coherent	Not engaging and lacks coherence
Technical Skills	Excellent filming and editing	Good filming and editing	Poor filming and editing
Presentation	Clear, confident, and very effective	Mostly clear and effective	Unclear, not effective