

## Short Essay for SHUM 415

**Due:** Nov. 20

### **Goal:**

The goal of this essay is to review the conceptual territory we have covered this semester in order to help you flesh out and deepen your final project. A secondary goal is for it to be fun.

### **Topic:**

For this paper, you will describe a scenario in which three of the people whose work we have looked at in this class enter into a conversation about your final project. What do they think of your final project? What do they believe its merits and deficits are? What would they suggest be done differently?

For your actors, you must choose two from the “analysts” category below and one from the “artists/designers” category. At least one of your analysts must come from parts of the syllabus after the “Understanding the Problem” unit.

**Analysts:** Cronon, McPhee, Scott, Edwards, Robinson, Watts, Spaid, Shusterman, Lacy, Stegall, Wodiczko, Brennan, Daston, Dunne, McDonough, Thackara, Blevis

**Artists/Designers:** Stegall, Liacas, Jeremijenko, Csikszentmihalyi, Thompson, Hooker, Holmes, Spanhake, Polli, Preemptive Media, Balkin, Kac, da Costa, Glatt, Singer, Ukeles, Paulos

Other people may be substituted with permission of the instructor.

**Format:** You may choose any genre to describe their discussion, such as a drama, a screenplay, an email exchange, or a fictional encounter. Your creativity in this respect is strongly encouraged.

Write 6-7 pages, using a standard font, in **10 points**. Double-space your paper, number its pages, and staple or paper-clip them together. On the top of the first page include your name, the name of the assignment, and the title of the essay. Essays must be proofread and spell-checked. Use a proper and consistent citation format where appropriate; include a references list with complete citations and cite the page number for all quotations or direct references to the text.

### **Grading standards:**

The most important factor in grading this essay will be your **ability to enter into the mindset of the people in your paper and to accurately and engagingly express their points of view**. In doing so, you will need to go beyond what the people actually said, but generalize from their points of view to explain how they would approach your project. **This may require you to move beyond the course readings to be sure you really understand the perspectives of the persons involved**. I am looking for 3-dimensional characterizations that are true to the persons' work.

The grading will also be based on **situations that draw out issues from our discussions and bring them to a new and provocative point.** Arbitrary combinations of people are not as interesting as ones that allow you to hash out an issue you believe is important in your final project.

Finally, **your creativity** in responding to this assignment will be rewarded.