

Visualization Project • HIS 5595

Guidelines & Expectations for Final Evaluation

Summary

1. Purpose: To determine which aspects of your research are ideally suited to convey results/findings via graphs, maps, images, or other forms of visualizations.
2. Objective: *Once you have determined which aspect of your research (almost) demands some form of visual representation ...* To convey research questions and arguments (findings, conclusions) that make good use of a particular visualization tool
3. Final Product: One or more digital visualizations - either in a self-contained web page, or across multiple web pages - that enhance the central questions, themes, findings, and content of your research topic.

Description of Assignment via Syllabus: This research-based assignment is fun, challenging, and open-ended. Your goal is to share your research as if you were writing a standard graduate-level paper, but primarily through images with as little text as possible (text ok for highly informative captions and image citations are ok). Examples include (but are not limited to) a curated photo essay; a data-heavy visualization product (graphs-maps-trees-charts); geo-mapping; data charts or displays (i.e. Tableau, Timeline JS, ClioApp, Google Map); annotated historical images (i.e. ThingLink); photo collages that capture several areas of your research topic (Adobe Spark offers an easy way to do this); visual layouts-illustrations via cartoon strips or annotated storyboards; a multi-media poster with hyperlinked videos, .mp3 audio clips, images, links to external sites (i.e. Prezi, Glogster).

Instructions for Submission

Before Getting Ready to Publish

Websites, images, and graphics: Make sure your visualizations are polished, free of grammatical errors, legible, and public; or, semi-private: visible to anyone with the link and/or an ASU email address. Images should be free of watermarks if possible; image size clear and large enough so it is not pixelated; graphic illustrations are likewise legible and large enough to explore and not pixelated. Ensure that any images with potential copyright infringements are checked for permissions to reuse or republish. Otherwise, hide relevant images or products via security such as semi-private or private settings that HIS 5595 participants can access with a password you provide when publishing.

Publishing

- ✓ Go to your website and create a blog post (or a standalone page for this project)
- ✓ Provide a title that captures your visualization topic
- ✓ Write and publish a post that:
 - ◆ lays out the topic, preliminary and guiding research questions
 - ◆ provides a **brief** overview of scholarly literature on this subject
 - ◆ presents your main conclusions.
 - ◆ If you have lingering or new questions provoked by this research, share those as well.
 - Length requirement is not essential; just make sure to cover the checklist items
 - ◆ Provide the URL link(s) for your visualization products
 - ◆ **SOURCES:** At the bottom of your blog post/page - right after your URL link(s) - create a divider or "horizontal line." Then, type "SOURCES" (all caps) and paste your list of research sources in Chicago Manual of Style.
 - [You can easily do this by using Zotero's "Create a Bibliography from Items" feature, selecting a copy to clipboard, and then pasting it into your blog post. Make sure all your metadata is correct and complete beforehand. Why? It is our expectation that graduate students take great care in learning how to properly cite sources in our discipline, and to ensure that all of the elements in a given citation are correct. Zotero makes it easier, but you still have to proof your sources]
- ✓ Publish by April 14, but **no later than by April 28.**

Assessment

This assignment constitutes 10% of the preliminary assignment grade that makes up the 60% of your final grade. As a reminder, the other 40% of your final grade is a qualitative self-assessment.

Consider the extent to which your final product: a) makes clear the topic, guiding questions, and findings of your research; b) makes good use of the visualization tool(s) features to further (or enhance) your narrative and argument(s); and, c) makes a case for how your project furthers our understanding of your research topic (i.e. What historiography does it speak to? How does it build on previous scholarship? and maybe Who is the intended audience?)

- To determine whether the quality of your final product is an "A," "B," or "C" quality, refer to the guidelines for each grade in the course syllabus.

SAMPLE CHECKLIST FOR PRELIMINARY SUBMISSION

Product(s)

- ✓ ____ Images/graphs/maps are clear and visible?
- ✓ ____ Items are accessible to the public, or to anyone with a link?
- ✓ ____ Items are free of grammar mistakes or other errors?
- ✓ ____ Items respect copyright norms (or make access difficult to those outside of class)?
- ✓ ____ Items enhance the central questions, themes, findings, and content of your research topic.

Published Blog Post/Webpage

- ✓ ____ Offers a relevant title?
- ✓ ____ Explains the topic (and historical context as needed)?
- ✓ ____ Presents preliminary and guiding question(s)?
- ✓ ____ Lays out the relevant academic literature on your subject
- ✓ ____ Provides conclusions - main argument (with possible avenues for future research)
- ✓ ____ Lists URL links to access products
- ✓ ____ Displays a clear "SOURCES" section [can be divided by primary source contributors and secondary sources]
- ✓ ____ Adheres to Chicago Manual of Style citation
- ✓ ____ Meets deadline of April 14 (final deadline of April 28)