Islam/Media, 21M.289
Final Project
DUE Thursday May 14, 2015, 11:59 pm

Final Projects

Components and timeline:
- Meet/discuss with Peter (week of Apr. 13)
- Submit proposal by email (DUE Apr. 29 before class)
- Present work-in-progress (7-8 min per person, in class, Mon. May 4)
- Final presentations (15-min per person, in class, Wed. May 13)
- Submit final project by email to Peter (Thur. May 14, 11:59 pm)

Note on grading: As noted in the original syllabus, the project proposal is worth 10% of your overall grade. The final project overall is worth 50% of the grade, and will reflect both the final submission and the in-class presentations (May 4, May 13).

Overview:
　　Over the course of the semester, we have encountered a variety of themes, media forms, networks, texts, media objects (museum objects, films, etc.), and so on. For the final project, you will explore some aspect of the course that interests you in greater depth. The topic should be chosen in consultation with the professor (during office hours or other meeting time the week of April 13). As with previous projects, in order to encourage creative media work, media-based projects will be given an automatic bonus of 10% on the overall project grade. However, written work is welcome. The scope of the project should be substantial: if writing, the paper should be around 20-25 pp. If you opt for some other media form, be sure to consult with the professor on the exact scope, but the project should be complete (i.e., fully functional for software, a "final cut" or equivalent for composed media), edited/revised (i.e., copy-edited, debugged, sound-mixed), and comprehensible as a stand-alone piece of media (though you may choose to include supplemental documentation to make it fully stand-alone). Although we will be doing class presentations on this material, it must be something a reader/viewer/user can access independently of your presence as author.

　　Topics may build on earlier class projects (Response 1, on the Qur'an and hadith traditions, or Response 2, on Islamic art). They may also take up themes from the latter part of the course on networks, pilgrimage, jihad, revolution (Iran, the Arab Spring), Islam in "the media," and so on. They may include critical responses to or remixes of media we watched/ listened to in class.

　　As always, the critical question is how ideas of Islam and media—with both concepts being understood broadly—might illuminate one another. Your project should demonstrate a grasp of the major topics and discussions of the course, familiarity with readings/screenings, and your own critical/creative energies in responding to, analyzing, and asking further questions on these topics. If you have questions about the project, please ask them *early on* in the process. We will devote considerable time in class to look at work-in-progress to avoid any confusion about projects, requirements, deadlines, etc.

Proposal: DUE by email Apr. 29, 12:30 pm
Media project: 1-2 pp. written proposal, including some preliminary media (e.g., 3-5 still images, 1-2 short sound or video recordings, a flowchart or sample of code).

Writing: 3-4 pp. written proposal, highlighting the themes and central questions you plan to explore, noting what class readings are relevant for your topic, and suggest 2-3 more sources you will be consulting for your final piece.

Presentation 1 (Work-in-Progress), Mon. May 4

Prepare a 7-8 minute presentation of your project to show/audition in class. The presentation should be an expansion of what is submitted in the project proposal. If the project is a media piece, the presentation should include substantial examples of the media to be used. Plan ahead to be able to share your work (either by projecting material or otherwise). We will discuss projects as a group to brainstorm next steps with the project.

Presentation 2 (Final presentations), Wed. May 13

Prepare a 15-minute presentation to show/audition in class. At this point, your project should be essentially completed. Again, please include ample media to show what your project does and/ or what kinds of questions it engages with.

Final project DUE, Thur. May 14, 11:59 pm

Submit your project with all accompanying materials electronically to { ^. If you foresee this deadline being a problem, please contact me well in advance. If your materials include hardware or other objects that need to be handed in in person, please let me know by Monday, May 11 at the latest.

Grading:
    You will be graded on clarity and rigor of ideas, critical response to themes of the course, and again, polish in editing (regardless of medium!). The project proposal is worth 10% of your grade, the project itself 50%, including in-class presentations. Late projects will be penalized 5% per day up until May 20th, after which point they will not be accepted. Media projects will be given a 10% bonus on the overall grade.

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