

### **Project 3: Sound Essay**

**Due Dates:** Draft due October 19<sup>th</sup> (Whole class workshop)

Final draft October 28<sup>th</sup>

This project is a revision – a transformation – of your photographic essay into a sound (and visual) essay. The focus on this project will be on the modality of sound (and maybe sight): what does the use of auditory components allow you to do and “show” that text and visual cannot? What does it mitigate against (what can it not show)?

Working with the source material of your photographic essay, you’ll transform that material into a spoken (and recorded) audio essay on the same subject. You will need to rewrite or write anew the text so that it is appropriate for the new genre (put another way: you cannot simply read your photographic essay and call it good). You’ll need to think about the rhetorical qualities of your own voice (modulation of pitch, volume, tone, etc.) as well as the rhetorical possibilities of sound effects and absence of sound (also called silence). Consider the ways in which sound can create images – how it can be used to evoke certain responses and remind of us experiences we have had.

While the new project must be based on your photographic essay, it does not have to be constrained by it – it can go in a different direction entirely, so long as it remains the same subject / topic. Your sound essay can also (and most likely will) deal with a component or single aspect of your photo essay.

The sound essay must be primarily in your own voice, though it can make use of others’ voices (through interviews, or simply having others narrate portion of the essay). The essay should make use of other sounds (and silence) as well – both “found” and pre-recorded.

**Alternately:** you could choose to incorporate both sound and sight by making use of presentation software, such as Prezi or iPhoto (or some other app that you know of). You would likely need to take more photographs and think carefully about the role and effect those visuals will have. Evaluation will still be based primarily on the quality of the aural components. If you want to be evaluated as well on the visual elements, you’ll need to indicate as such when you submit the final version. The visual elements will count for ten percent of the grade, and the assessment of them will reflect the work we did on visual rhetoric for the photo essay.

**Length: 3 – 5 minutes**