

The Final Project

Re-Imagining America

The final project of the year – which you will work on during the final week of classes and present during the final exam period – is to construct your own science fiction vision:

*Imagine what America will be like in the year 2035
and present that vision to us in any form you choose*

Some possibilities ...

Fiction

Write a **short story** or create a **comic book** that constructs a 2035 world

Requirements: Short story must be at least 750-1000 words and the comic book must have at least 20-30 panels. Both must have complex characters, internal and external conflicts and a resolution of those conflicts. Be ready to read a selection from the story during final exams. Place comic book on poster board for the class to see – be ready to present and explain a selection.

Drama:

Create and perform a **play** with interesting props/costumes that takes place in a 2035 world

Requirements: The play should be at least 750-100 words (excluding stage directions). It must have complex characters, internal and external conflicts and a resolution of those conflicts. Be ready to perform it during final exams (or tape a performance before finals that you could show to class during finals)

Video:

Create a **news broadcast** from a 2035 world

Create one or two scenes from a **film** that is set in a 2035 world

Requirements: The screenplay of either the broadcast or the film should be at least 750-100 words (excluding broadcaster/character names and camera directions). Be ready to play it during finals.

Art

Create a 2-D (**drawings**) or 3-D (**a physical model of the world**) or 4-D!?! vision

Requirements: Your artwork should show a complex vision of a 2035 world. Be ready to present *and* explain in detail how the artwork represents your vision (prepare a written explanation of at least 250 words).

Web:

Create a survival **website** – all the things you need to survive in a 2035 world

Requirements: Your website should have at least 750-1000 words of substantial material. It should include multimedia and at least ten outside link. Feel free to see Mr. Heidkamp for help with constructing your web pages. Be ready to present it during finals.

You may construct this vision as an individual or in a group. No group, though, can have more than three members, and a group should *double or triple the requirements* depending on how many members. If you are presenting a play or film, you can recruit other members of class to play the lesser roles.

Important

The only requirement for the *content* of your vision is that it must address at least one of the key questions we have discussed over the course of the year – one of the central social, political or economic conflicts in American culture – and it must be a social commentary in which you suggest – through either positive or negative representations – what needs to be changed and how it might be changed.

Other questions you might consider:

How will you “world-build” – construct a vision that is something we have never seen before but at the same time something we believe in?

What technological change or innovation will change the world?

Is your vision a utopian or dystopian vision of world?

Due Dates

by _____

Everyone should decide upon the question/conflict(s) you will address and what form your vision will take. If you are working in groups, you can meet together on Tuesday and determine which idea will work best
(10 points)

by _____

Every individual or group must have a substantial outline or comparable preparation for their vision
(20 points)

by Finals, _____

Be ready to present and hand in a final copy of your vision
(70 points)