

GEN ST 349: Community Based Leadership & Digital Storytelling

Spring 2010 Course Syllabus – 2 credits (CR/NC)

Thursdays 4:30-6:20 PM, Mary Gates Hall, Room 206

Course website: <http://depts.washington.edu/leader/cbl>

***"We are the stories we tell ourselves."* – Thomas King**

Course Instructors

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Are you engaged in your local community? What does community leadership look like to you? Are you interested in telling a story through film?

Course Description and Goals

Utilizing the teaching & learning method of Digital Storytelling, this course will offer students the opportunity to explore the question: *What is Community-based Leadership?* Designed for those who have been involved in some aspect of service (volunteering, tutoring, activism, advocacy, philanthropy, community dialog, etc.), the course will ask students to draw from their academic study and experiences within the community to devise a narrative that reflects their ideas about community and leadership. The narrative will be translated into a digital video format under 10 minutes long. Definitions of Community-based Leadership will be explored through in-class discussion, a panel of guest speakers active in the local community, and the development of a narrative and storyboard. You will learn to work collaboratively in teams of three as we examine the elements of effective Digital Storytelling, critique examples, construct, record, and edit a film to engage an audience in your definition. The course will conclude with a public viewing, in addition to a final written review of the film's process and learning outcomes.

Filming and editing experience is a plus, but not required, as we will be covering the basics. Flip Video Cameras and Editing Stations with iMovie will be provided. This is a great opportunity to build your skills and the final product could be added to a portfolio of your work.

Course Reading

There are no required textbooks for General Studies 349. There will be a few short reading assignments regarding definitions of community leadership and elements of effective digital storytelling, but the majority of coursework will focus on digital storytelling skill development, application to the film, and reflection on the development process.

Course Objectives

- To develop and articulate a deep understanding of community-based leadership and public service definitions
- To develop a beginner's level competency of digital storytelling and digital video production

- To produce a 3-10 minute digital story reflecting ideas about community leadership
- To critically reflect on one’s views on leadership, community, and the role of storytelling

Course Expectations (Grading)

This is a two-credit course that is graded credit / no credit. Credit will be given to students based on class attendance, participation, and completion of assignments, including a final 3-10 minute digital video. As this class will only be meeting once per week, credit will not be granted to students missing more than one course session.

Course Schedule: This course will meet on Thursdays from 4:30-6:20pm.

April 1st	<p>Course Overview, Introductions, Team Assignments, Discussion of Community-based Leadership, Discussion of Digital Storytelling process-- delegating responsibilities, creating a Recipe for Success, Backwards Planning.</p> <p>Assignment: 1) Read “Defining community-based leadership”, 2) Complete the “Team Delegation Plan & Recipe for Success”, 3) Prepare to introduce your team in the next class (include your team name and initial vision for defining Community Leadership in your digital story)</p>
April 8th	<p>Guest Panel: “What defines good Community-based Leadership?”, Team introductions, Class Discussion-- <i>Come prepared to discuss your ideas about how to define Community Leadership and what community issues you personally feel are important and in need of leadership.</i></p> <p>Due: “Team delegation plan & Recipe for Success”</p> <p>Assignment: Post a personal definition of Community-based Leadership on the Course GoPost Forum, read the definitions posted by the other two members of your team and post a response. https://catalysttools.washington.edu/gopost/board/mattwojo/15858/</p>
April 15th	<p>Digital Storytelling – visualizing your story, researching your topic, getting at the root of what your story will be about, and developing a plan to engage your audience. <i>Guest Speaker: Jane Van Galen</i> (Consider ethical practices, legal considerations & release forms). Introduce storyboard assignment. Critique example videos.</p> <p>Due: Posted definitions on GoPost Forum.</p> <p>Assignment: Storyboard Draft #1.</p>
April 22nd	<p>Assembling the pieces of your story: Filming, Storyboarding, Scripting, Shotlist, Actors or Interviews, Soundtrack, Titles, etc. Filming – what to consider when capturing footage for your film? (Sound, Framing, Garden Hose theory) Divide class in half, teams present their storyboard drafts and receive feedback.</p> <p>Due: Storyboard Draft #1.</p> <p>Assignment: Revise Storyboard. Begin Filming with Flip Cameras – be prepared with some footage to experiment with by next week loaded on a Memory Stick. Review the iMovie Tutorial: http://www.apple.com/ilife/imovie/ Click on “Get to know iMovie”</p>
April 29th	<p>Editing – iMovie basics #1 <i>Guest Presenter.</i></p> <p>Due: Review of iMovie Tutorial and FlipCamera Footage loaded on Memory Stick.</p>
May 6th	<p>Editing – Working Session (with Q&A support).</p>
May 13th	<p>Editing – iMovie basics #2 <i>Guest Presenter.</i></p>
May 20th	<p>Editing – Working Session (with Q&A support).</p>
May 27th	<p>Reflection on the process—teams discuss the challenges in working together, what they learned about collaboration, what they’ve learned about community-based leadership through making the</p>

	film, and what they hope the audience will gain from viewing their film.
June 3rd	Public Screening of Community-based Leadership Films.
June 10th	Due: Written review of the film's process and learning outcomes (2-3 pages or 1000 to 1500 words). No final will be required for this course and we will not be meeting during Finals week.