

Engl. 131N
Caitlin Palo
Short Assignment 1.1 Prompt
Due Date: Th. 10/07

Being In Place: Field Observation

The work you begin in this short assignment will be the basis for all of the work you do throughout the quarter. Choose a public place in the University District to observe. Spend **45-60 minutes** there taking notes on the physical dimensions of the space, the people who move through the scene, if and how they interact with each other, how they use the space. Don't forget that you too are a person in this space—take note of your own experience in this place, do you see a lot of people you know? Are you comfortable in this space? How do you usually use the place (if at all)? etc. You may feel that 45-60 minutes is either too long or too short, but take the whole time actively looking for details in the scene. Your aim here should be twofold:

- 1) To get a good sense of this place for yourself.
- 2) To convey your sense of the place to your reader—me. Keep in mind: I might or might know your place, but what I do not know is what you see there.

Your note taking might take these forms:

- Handwritten or typed notes
- Maps of the space
- Schematics of movement in the space
- Photographs
- Video/audio

After observing, compile your notes to turn in. Put the **two most important pieces** of evidence in the front. If one of your items is emailed to me, indicate that in a brief note at the top of page 1.

Each of these counts as 1 item:

- 1 page single-spaced, 12pt font, typed notes
- 1 photograph
- 1 map
- 1 movement schematic
- 1 video/audio clip of up to 60 seconds

e.g. submission: 1 pages notes, 1 map

e.g. submission: 120 seconds video

e.g. submission: 60 seconds audio, 1 photograph

Outcomes: 1 & 2

Assessment Criteria

- Clarity of notes
- Awareness of audience (me)
- Evidence of attention to detail in the space
- Discernment of effective evidence for conveying a sense of placed experience.

Engl. 131N
Short Assignment 1.3
Due Date: T. 10/19 & Th. 10/21

Describing Place
Genre Presentation

Create a text to present the public space from your field observation to your classmates. This piece may be in any presentable form you like. It can be a written piece in the style of Duncan, Said, Wallace. You may also choose to put together a collection of photos or drawings, to write a collection of poems, a short drama or dialogue, to show a video, or present a mixed media project of your choice.

You will read/perform/play/present your project to class on T. 10/26 or Th. 10/28. You will have 4 minutes.

Be aware that you will be expected to draw direct connections between this creative piece and your field research, so this cannot be entirely free form. However, your artistic freedom is as great as your persuasive power: if you can convincingly explain the connection between an observation and something you do in your presentation, both the argument and the creative piece will receive positive assessment.

Assessment:

- incorporation of details from field notes
- coherence, clarity, and engagement in presentation

Engl. 131N
Major Paper 1
Draft Due 10/26; Final Due 10/28
Creative Reflection

Where You Were Comprehensive Analysis

Now that you have completed and presented a piece about your place to the class, analyze your process from beginning to end, from field observation to receiving audience feedback. In this paper draw examples from your field observation, discuss how you used your notes to create the genre piece, what, if any, stylistic techniques you drew from one of the authors we read, and describe the strategic choices you made in when thinking about what aspects of your place you included, which you excluded in the presentation, why you chose those aspects and what effect that had on your audience.

Think about the assignment prompts below.

- Do you think that you successfully conveyed aspects of the place to your classmates through your presentation?
- Describe why you think you were successful or unsuccessful in conveying your sense of place.
- Did your classmates suggest new ways for you to think of the place, or an aspect of it, in a different way?
- What, if anything, would you like to have added to your creative piece?

Your analysis paper should be 5-7 pages long,
Submit Major paper with Field notes and Audience Responses attached, either in an envelope or held together with a paperclip or alligator clip.

Assessment Criteria:

- shows evidence of self reflective and critical thought about the creative piece.
- considers use of ethos and pathos in the presentation piece
- considers stylistic choices of the piece
- draws connections between your first field observation notes, the execution of your piece (including performance), and the responses received from your classmates.
- Paper has a logical, understandable structure
- Paper is stapled and has correct headings