

Get Out the Vote '24 (G10)



Overview

This project will challenge you to develop an understanding of some of the core issues of the 2024 election in order to help eligible voters be more informed and engaged about their civic agency. By the end of this project, we are not encouraging you to take stands on any particular issue or candidate, but be more aware of how current politics impacts those in our community as well as how to have a voice in the political system.

You will first build your understanding of the voting systems and the key issues that are driving current political engagement. Next, you and your team will select one specific issue to explore in-depth. This will lead to the creation of a **short film #1** that presents an overview of the issue, along with the political stances of the two major parties.

Next, you will gather community voices about your chosen issue to create a **short film #2** that shares community perspectives on how the issue impacts them. Finally, your team will go into post-production to make your two short films public ready to be shared on November 5th with eligible voters within Wellesley High School.

This project will introduce you to skills in researching and metacognition by building on your skills of interviewing, filming, and editing.

Exploratory Questions

Primary Inquiry

- How can we contribute to creating a more informed and engaged electorate?

Primary Skill

- What filmmaking techniques can best be utilized to share information and personal experiences to a wider audience and have an impact?

Content

Politics / Election:

- ☐ Understanding voting process and the value of political engagement
- ☐ Understanding the issues of the 2024 election from both political perspectives

Filmmaking:

- ☐ Being able to conduct live interviews and gather effective footage using appropriate tools
- ☐ Understanding filmmaking techniques

- ❑ Understanding post-production process, editing techniques and film terminology

Final Product and Presentation

Collaboration: Teams of 4 will work through the project together

Final Product: Two short films (between 3-5 minutes each)

Film One (Deep dive in the issue)

- Utilizes filmmaking techniques - primary sources, visuals, narration, etc
- Utilizes editing techniques - titles, transitions, proper pacing, volume, credits, captions, etc.

Film Two (Community voice around the issue)

- Utilizes filmmaking techniques - interviews, visuals, narration, etc
- Utilizes editing techniques - titles, transitions, proper pacing, volume, credits, captions, etc.

Public Share:

- In-School screenings for eligible voters and invited guests - show films and have conversations with audience about them

Project Phases

- **Project Purpose**
- **Short Film #1 - Inform**
 - **Research & Empathy** - Research your team's chosen issue and engage with experts to clarify your understanding
 - **Define & Ideate** - Build a storyboard with your team that defines the purpose/arc of short film
 - **Model/Prototype** - Complete rough cut of Short Film #1 (issue)
- **Short Film #2 - Engage**
 - **Research & Empathy** - Find community stories about perspectives and impacts of your team's issue
 - **Define & Ideate** - Build a storyboard with your team that defines the purpose/arc of short film
 - **Model/Prototype** - Complete rough cut of Short Film #2 (issue)
- **Test/Evaluate**
 - Receive feedback on your two short films
 - Organize work
 - Finished cuts of each short film for teacher and team review
- **Publish/Produce**
 - Final cuts of short films and public sharing within WHS

Timeline - Visual Calendar (to be added on 10/1)

Week 1: Sept 30 - Oct 4

- Sept 30: Project Kick-Off with FilmMaking
- Oct 1: Intro to Political Context
- Oct 2: Team Formation & Gathering Community Information
- Oct 3: No School
- Oct 4: Understanding Community Context

Week 1: Oct 7 - Oct 11

- Oct 7: Check for Understanding on Process: Purpose
- Oct 8: Begin Short Film #1 - Issue Overview focus
- Oct 9: Step Up Day
- Oct 10: Continue Short Film #1
- Oct 11: Continue Short Film #1

Week 3: Oct 14 - Oct 18

- Oct 14: No School
- Oct 15: Issue Expert Panels; Continue Short Film #1
- Oct 16: Continue Short Film #1
- Oct 17: Short Film #1 Due; Collaborative Check?
- Oct 18: Begin Short Film #2 - Community Impact focus; Civil Discourse with AEP

Week 4: Oct 21 - Oct 25

- Oct 21: Continue Short Film #2; Community Interview Process, Project Management Log
- Oct 22: Continue Short Film #2; Community Interview Process
- Oct 23: Continue Short Film #2
- Oct 24: Short Film #2 Due; Peer Feedback
- Oct 25: Expert Feedback on Short Films

Week 5: Oct 28 - Oct 31

- Oct 28: Working on complete cuts of both short films
- Oct 29: Complete cuts due; Peer Feedback
- Oct 30: Working on final cuts
- Oct 31: Working on final cuts; exporting, preparing for public share

Week 6: Nov 4 - Nov 8

- Nov 4: Final cut exporting, preparing for public share
- Nov 5: Film Screenings
- Nov 6: Project Debrief
- Nov 7 & 8: Conferences, Summative Email, and Community Work

Assessment

Collaboration: Feedback

- Feedback Session # 1: (10/24) - After short films completed
- Feedback Session # 2: (10/29) - Within team partners give feedback to other film

Collaboration: Team Dynamics

- Collaborative Checkpoint (10/17 & 10/18) - Midpoint on teams working together
- Final Team Debrief (11/5 - 11/7)

Communication: Verbal

- Podcast Reflection (10/21)

Communication: Written

- Summative Email (11/7)

Communication: Video

- Milestone #5: Publish/Produce (Completed Short Film) (11/4)

Community: Expert Workshop

- League of Women Voters (10/1)
- Issue Expert Panel (10/15)

Process: Purpose

- Check for Understanding (10/7)
- End of Project (make-up / optional)

Process : Organization & Responsibility

- Project Facilitator
- Project Management Log (10/10 - 10/21)
- Project Management Log (10/22 - 10/31)

Thinking: Creative Thinking

- StoryBoard of Short Film #1 (10/11)- focus on bullet #3. How can they take the pieces they have to organize them into an engaging film using the techniques learned.

Thinking: Reflective

- Reflection (10/21)
- Summative Email (11/7)

Thinking: Critical Thinking

- Check for Understanding: Short Film 1 Issue Explanation - 10/17 in class writing
- Director's Commentary: Test and Evaluate (Filming Technique Explanation) - 11/4