

Digital Media is a College Prep Course and homework expectations for all MVLA College Prep Courses are stated as such in your student handbook ([MVHS](#) / [LAHS](#)) :

Students in College Preparatory should expect up to 2-3 hours of focused, undistracted homework time per week in a single class.

So you are expected to work on completing these assignments at home too.

Semester 2 Final

Explorations Webpage Content Requirements

Goal: To produce an Explorations Webpage to archive and feature your Explorations Project. More details about the actual project on <https://freestyleacademy.rocks/explorations>

Your Explorations Website and thumbnail deadline is the last day of Semester 2

The Explorations Webpage has 3 main sections plus a thumbnail:

- 1. EXPLORATIONS PROJECT SECTION
- 2. MUSIC RECORDING SECTION
- 3. POEM SECTION

Login to your WordPress website, if you already have an Exploration page, then edit and publish that page. If you don't have an already existing Explorations page, then add a new page with the title of "Explorations" and publish it. The slug or URL of the page should be

Good URL <https://freestyleacademy.rocks/~UsernamE/explorations>
BAD URL <https://freestyleacademy.rocks/~UsernamE/explorations>**-2**

Then go to Appearance > Menus and make sure the Explorations button is part of your menu and is active on your main navigation bar which will now have the following active:

About Me Conceptual Narrative 1 Documentary **Explorations**

Edit your WordPress Explorations Page. Make sure you have the following content on the page:

EXPLORATIONS PROJECT SECTION

- 1. Explorations **INTRODUCTION**
 - a. In general, explain the Explorations Project to give the viewer some context about the project. Rewrite and summarize the following:

"How can you find, explore, and/or expand your passion?"
For the Explorations Project, all Junior Freestyle students will explore his/her own passion and improve upon a particular skill set that addresses [21st Century Skills](#).
 - b. Specifically, introduce your Explorations Project. Why did you choose this particular topic? Which [21st Century Skill\(s\)](#) are you improving upon?
 - c. Create and add a small graphic to add visual interest to the chunks of text.
- 2. Creatively feature your Explorations **PROCESS**. Process is VERY important in Explorations so the Process section needs the most explanation and images. Create and add a small graphic or photos to add visual interest to the chunks of text.
- 3. Feature (in words and media) your Explorations **FINAL PRODUCTION**. If it's a video, [you will eventually be able to find your video on this YouTube playlist](#) - search for your UsernamE. Do NOT upload video or music to your WordPress > Media > Library. Also embed the video recording of your Explorations Celebration.
- 4. Include your short written Explorations Project **REFLECTION** about **what you valued** from the Explorations Project and **how you benefited as a digital artist** from the Explorations Project.

MUSIC RECORDING SECTION

- 5. Introduce, explain your music inspiration/objectives/reflection
- 6. Embed your .mp3 onto your webpage and feature your Album Cover
- 7. Paste in your Collaborative Artist Statement for your Music Production project.
- 8. Feature the the photos/videos from the Recording Session
- 9. Feature a large screenshot of your Music Recording Pro Tools Interface so the viewer can see how you created the music. You know, make it look "impressive" with plug-ins expanded, open windows, etc - similar to this:



POEM SECTION

- 10. Introduce your Poem. At a minimum, explain how a Poet-in-Residence came to help you learn about poems. What are your takeaways from the Poet-in-Residence visit? Explain the poem(s) you wrote and why you wrote it. As you assemble an explanation of the project in English on your webpage.
- 11. Creatively add your Poem(s) onto your Explorations Webpage. Be creative about adding images or visuals that are related to your Poem. Do NOT link to a Google Doc because the document will be deleted when you graduate and we want a permanent record of your Lyrical Essay.

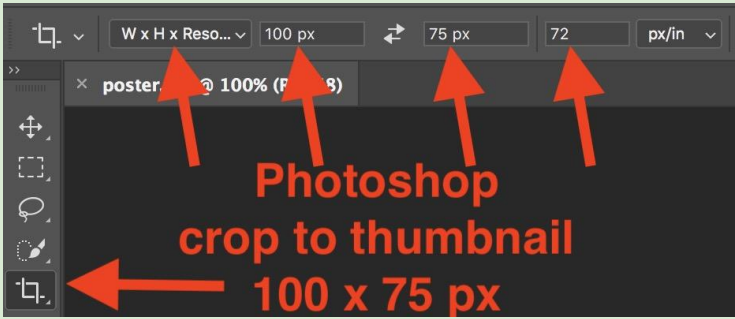
EXTRA CREDIT (10%) - create a video of one of your poems, Record your poem with your voice. Add some royalty free music, a Title and visuals. Render it as p4-Poem-Username.mp4 and submit it to the "Upload to YouTube" folder. Once on Freestyle's YouTube Channel, you can explain and embed it onto your webpage.

Website Thumbnail Images

- You'll need to submit your custom thumbnail images for this webpage https://freestyleacademy.rocks/galleries/jr_explorations_websites. You can see below how some students didn't submit a thumbnail and this is the result. Hope you have more pride in how you present yourself.



Here are the specs for the images:



- Any explorations related photo will suffice
- Make a copy of an existing image or create a new image**
- Open in Photoshop and crop it as shown on the right. **It's NOT a SQUARE image!**

- File > Export as a .jpg (not .png don't be the one who submits a png and don't just change the extension on the end from jpg to png - reminder video) as shown on the right
- Filename must be UsernamE.jpg (NOT png and nothing added to the UsernamE!!!!)
- Submit the Explorations thumbnail UsernamE.jpg to the correct folder "Explorations Thumbnail". (1 pt.)

CHECK these common errors PRIOR to submitting:

1. Capitalize proper nouns - Freestyle, English, Digital Media, Design, Animation, Film
2. Check spelling in general - make a good impression by spelling words correctly especially I, not i for example
3. Videos should be large, not small - be proud to show your video so make it big
4. Thumbnails should be small to force people to click on them. If they are already big images, then no-one will want to click on them. People will naturally want to click on small images and expect to see a larger image.
5. Do the fancybox links, if any, result in an overlay feature as expected?
6. Are ALL your paragraphs LEFT aligned, not center aligned?
7. Are headings consistently aligned - all centered, or all left aligned but not a combination of left, center, right - REPETITION is a design concept for any good web layout and formatting?
8. Does your Navigation Menu limited to display webpages that are completed because there's no point in having links to blank unfinished pages?

What do you need to submit?

1. Submit the Explorations thumbnail UsernamE.jpg to the correct folder "Explorations Thumbnail".
2. With honesty and integrity, fill out this [Web Page Self-Grade form](#)
3. After filling out the form, you will immediately get an email in your inbox of how you graded yourself. If you don't immediately get a message, you probably entered your email address incorrectly.
4. Find and look at the email. Copy the text content of the email and submit it as text for this assignment to trigger grading in Canvas. Submit something like this:

Firstname,
Here are Webpage Self-Grades that you submitted online on [date]
Webpage you self-graded: [Explorations](#) <-- This should be linked to your Explorations Website.
Webpage Content grade you gave yourself: ##%
Webpage Design grade you gave yourself: ##%
Webpage Usability grade you gave yourself: ##%

Webpage OVERALL grade: ##% ← Don't forget this part
Thank you!

BRAVO! You have completed your Junior Year at Freestyle. Hopefully you have learned lots of artistic, technical, and artistic skills this past year that you have found to be useful in being a Creative.

There's lots more to come next year for you to become even MORE UNSTOPPABLE!

Thank you for your GRIT = passion + perseverance!