

UBC Geography 426: The Historical Geography of British Columbia.

Heritage Minute Assignment.

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This heritage minute assignment is to be completed by your peer-led learning group, with team members doing equal work in all phases of the project. This assignment (final video and research diary) is worth 20% of your final grade. Video (15) Diary (5).

Deadlines.

Image approval, October 26th.

Completed video brought to my office for upload, Nov 27th.

Class film festival, Nov 30th. <<https://www.youtube.com/user/capubc/videos>>

Goals.

By completing this assignment you will be able to:

- perform some basic manipulations using digital sound and video editing software
- divide a large project into separate tasks and negotiate the distribution of work
- use multiple sources to craft a short historical narrative

Your ultimate goal is to produce a 60-second 'heritage minute' style video on the British Columbia historical geography topic of your choice. Video is perhaps a misleading term. Your video is actually composed of a still image and audio overlay. You can pan around your image, or zoom in to focus on particular details, but no moving pictures or animation is required. All of your effort will be devoted to constructing your narrative, recording it, and spicing it up with appropriate sound effects if you feel so moved.

Getting Started.

As individuals, select your favourite archival photos from one of the following collections:

UBC Digital Collections, <http://angel.library.ubc.ca/index.php>

City of Vancouver Archives: <http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/archives/photos/index.htm>

Botany John Virtual Museum: <http://botanyjohn.org/gallery>

Library and Archives Canada:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/lac-bac/search/images>

Meet or correspond with your group members and select the one photograph you want to use, and another one as a backup. CC-ing all of your group members, send these to me as an email. Provide a full reference please, so that I can find the image myself, no urls or attachments. Include some details as to the approach you want to take.

For copyright purposes, the image must have been taken before 1949.

Research.

Read the introduction to *British Columbia: Land of Promises*, on reserve in Koerner library (pp 1-8). Should you wish, you can also read the optional text, Joan M Schwartz (2007) "The Photograph: Between Landscape and Environment" in

Environmental History, vol 12, no 4, pp 966-993 (available to you via the UBC Library).

Partners should then seek as many additional sources as possible to contextualize your photograph and inform your narrative. Who produced it? When? Where? For what purpose? What does the image show? Perhaps more importantly, what doesn't it show? Keep a very careful record of your research in your project diary. Use the results of your research to inform the story you want to tell. Draft a script. Read it aloud to check your timing.

Production.

You can sign out digital audio recorders, in person, from the Geography AV office, room 206. Or, you can also get them from Arts Audio Visual Services <av@mail.arts.ubc.ca>, Buchanan C room 113. Make explicit mention of our class. You can use these machines for 24 hours at a time.

Next you will need to choose both audio and video editing programs. The specifics are up to you. I use the open source program "Audacity" for my audio editing, and a very old version of iMovie for video. Whatever you use, *before you do anything*, make sure that they are compatible. Computers with video editing software are available to you in the Chapman Learning Commons at the IK Barber Learning Centre. These computers are accessed 'first come first served', so best to arrive right at 8am, or use them in the evenings and weekends.

While the initial audience will be your instructor and peers, we will upload our videos to a class YouTube account. For this reason, all material you use must be original and created by your group. This is to say, you cannot use a commercial recording as a soundtrack, and you cannot splice in copyrighted video from some other source. You can use open source audio content, but it must be credited.

Final Products.

Your 'video': we will begin the first few seconds with a common jpeg advertising this as a class project. You can download this as a powerpoint file from:

<www.brownstein.ca/426/heritage-minute-title-page.ppt>

Next is your 60 seconds of content, followed by credits (not included in your 60 seconds).

Your diary:

Each individual should keep a private, running diary of your experiences and research, to be handed in with your group's final product (this should be a document of, at minimum, five pages). The diary should not be written in one sitting at the very end, but rather as appropriate throughout the process! As the project progresses, detail how your team managed the work. What was done by each team member? Did you work effectively as a team? How did you ensure tasks could be done in parallel? Also, record your own personal research, including some commentary on how these sources helped you craft your narrative. Please provide full citations, rather than urls.

Marking Rubric.

There will be a prize for the best Heritage Minute, as voted by your peers.

	Sophisticated 80 - 100	Quite good 70 - 79	Sufficient 60 - 69	Inadequate < 60
Image approval by Oct 26?	Yes	Yes, but late	Yes, though late and required a prompt	No
Video began with class template?	Yes	Yes, but some missing info	Yes, but inappropriate info	No
Argument	Yes: clear, robust, direct, understandable. Logical, analytical, well explored.	Yes, present but could have stood another set of revisions to sharpen, missed important points.	Yes, present but possibly weak. Vague, rambling, incoherent. Addressed, but spotty treatment and examined in patches while ignoring crucial aspects	No argument, or position is vague, illogical, poorly explored or no analysis. Woefully inadequate.
Narrative	Synthesizes sources into a meaningful, fluid, articulate, chronological narrative; attentive to multiple temporal and geographic scales.	Generally in chronological order, though some jumping around, needs some work to make more smooth, perhaps weak attention to wider context	Mirrors process of research, rather than events as they unfolded in time, or no attention to wider context.	Scatter-shot and unstructured, no attention to temporal or geographic context
Appropriate length	Appropriate length, 60 seconds	Perhaps slightly too long or too short	Too much or too little material.	Far too long or too short, for any number of reasons.

Research. Critical use of wide variety of sources?	Each group member contributed at least five unique secondary sources. Members cast a critical eye over everything, including their foundational, most trusted works	Sufficient sources (say four from each member) but not critical, or critical of an insufficient number of sources	Over reliance on one or two secondary sources. Insufficient quality, or weak sources. Critical of sources in a weak fashion, or here and there rather than throughout	Insufficient or inappropriate sources. Members use all material in an uncritical, unreflective fashion
Analysis	Strong analytical skills evident, relevant info drawn from sources and linked to image to maximize meaning	Good analysis, though perhaps missed important points here and there; some links not made explicit	Simply reporting data from documents rather than contextualizing info located, or wrong information	Incorrect analysis or mistakes, no or mistaken contextualization
Visual aesthetic	Clear, creative and compelling.	Minor issues, or the image was not enlisted to tell your story as well as it could have	Present, but possibly larger problems or visuals fighting with the narrative	Major problems with approach, or no thought given to anticipation of audience
Creativity	Original elements or approach. Innovative use of the medium.	Well conceived, but perhaps not so original.	Standard approach.	Entirely derivative.
Credits	Clear, readable, contains image citation	Clear, though perhaps small problems with readability	Present, but no image source listed, or incomplete archival citation.	No Credits.

Late work will be penalized by -10% per day.