

This is the research project you've been waiting for. . . . OK. Maybe not, but it's the one we're pursuing. It *is*, however, your chance to write about something that matters to you. No topic is too weird or too unimportant (as long as you find it fascinating). You get to combine factual, researched information with imaginative, creative ideas, and move your reader with a one of a kind experience.)

Satisfy your curiosity, find answers to questions, and create something that might border on magic. It's your project.

SOURCES FOR YOUR INQUIRY

- Book(s)
- Database Articles / News Articles
- Internet Sources¹

GENRES/PIECES/ELEMENTS YOUR MULTI-GENRE PROJECT MUST CONTAIN

- Title Page
- "Argument" Piece (proposal, position, or evaluation) 2 - 3 pages (double-spaced)—Craft a thought-provoking argument that uses research, cites sources MLA style and employs an open-ended thesis that develops its argument as the piece evolves. Pare down your topic to essentials, a straight-forward "research paper" in miniature.
- Dear Reader Letter (often used as the open or the close)
- Photo Essay with an original photo or found photo with citation/caption
- Flash Fiction/Non-fiction (story of 400 – 600 words)
- Poetry original poetry of substance (at least ½ page) in any style
- Works Cited (this goes absolutely last & provides entries for any sources you cite)

You **MUST** include all 7 bulleted items in your paper. You'll need to write more genres than the ones listed to create a fully realized multi-genre experience. Whatever else you write is up to you. Range widely as you create this paper. Be creative, make it happen, & make it look good.

WRITE AT LEAST 2 BUT AS MANY AS 4 EXTRA PIECES (could include but not limited to)

- Poetry (extra poems in any forms you like – could include haiku or acrostic)
- Writer Bio (like the blurb at the back of a published book, include your photo and author bio)
- To-Do List (action-item list)
- Dialogue Piece (story told through dialogue)
- Dictionary-Style Definitions (you create them – realistic or abstract)
- Biography/Character Sketch (real or fictional)
- Interview Questions and/or Answers (field research you conduct or fictionalize)
- Sales Advertisement (you create an ad for a related product)
- Comic/Storyboard (tell a story with art YOU create)
- How-To/Recipe (directions to complete a related task – real or abstract)
- Top-10 List (form your own best-of & rank them)
- Text Conversation/Tweet Thread (fictionalize an online convo or series of posts)

CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO ADD Unifying Elements (thread, repetend, repeated images, motifs, fragmented narrative, etc.)

¹ The Internet is democratic. You know it holds surprising, helpful information. And since there is no screening on the Internet, you'll also encounter misinformation, balderdash, and lies. Be careful. Learn who sponsors a website and what its purpose and bias are. Gauge the quality and the depth of what you find in cyberspace. I definitely don't want you to simply paste material from a website into your project. I want to see an original multi-genre paper from you, one passionate and grounded in a thorough research understanding of your topic. I want to see you expand your knowledge about some subject, maybe even develop wisdom. I want to see you stretch and refine your writing skills and powers of communication. I want you to use the thinking we've done about writing with a distinctive voice. I want to read your paper and be informed, but even more, I want to be *moved*.

EXPLORING IDEAS (3/16 - 21)

You will submit via GForm (3/21) the idea you'd like to pursue in your research and consider whether you will propose a solution, take a stance, or provide an evaluation in your argument piece (research paper portion).

SOURCE SEARCHING & NOTE-TAKING (3/21 - 23)

You'll need to find 2 or 3 potential, quality sources that you can reference in your writing. 1) Find them, read/skim them, and send links via email to your instructor 2) annotate/highlight as you read in more detail (you will end up submitting these along with your final paper) 3) make a 4 part-note page in your notebook for each source. (Keep track of authors and page numbers for citation use later.)

DESIGNING RESEARCH (PLAN & ORGANIZE YOUR THOUGHTS) (3/24)

The Research Design is a notebook page that helps jump-start your paper and gives you a plan for writing. Establish what you know, what you have found, your "angle" for argument, a tentative thesis statement, and points you plan to make. Submit this page via GClassroom no later than 3/26.

DRAFTING & SHARING THE RESEARCH SECTION (WRITE IT) (3/24 - 29)

Using your plan, notepages, & sources, put your thoughts to paper. Be sure to use MLA format and cite your sources in-text. Due as MSWord document no later than end of day 3/28 (2 – 3 pages). WRITE CLUB this research paper in class 3/29 - get feedback.

MAKING IT MULTI-GENRE (3/30 - 4/14)

Experiment in other genres by writing notebook pieces related to your topic. Learn the importance of narrative/story-telling, how to use pictures to balance your writing, what makes a poem. Write pieces and select what you will include in your bigger project. Continually assess what makes a great reader experience, considering how you will arrange and organize pieces for optimal impact.

CONFERRING/PROGRESS CHECK-INS (4/11 & 4/17)

Check in with instructor and/or via checklist for the Mark #1 & #2 points.

FINALIZING & COPYEDITING (4/17- 19)

Add both a title (fitting and original) and works cited page (with MLA style entries). And proofread for clean copyedit. After all the time, effort, creativity, and brilliance you poured into this work, be sure you know WHY – Every. Single. Mark. Occurs. (No careless mistakes.)

WRITE CLUB PRESENTATION (4/20)

Share with your WRITE CLUB your topic, your interest and drive to complete it, and a powerful excerpt from your work. YAY!!

ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

Your multi-genre paper will be reviewed for including the required components, the effectiveness and writing of the pieces, the ways the pieces work together within the project itself, and "scored" holistically according to the "grading of writing" guidelines at mrsconnollysclass.com.

"A multigenre paper arises from research, experience, and imagination. It is not an uninterrupted, expository monolog nor a seamless narrative nor a collection of poems. A multigenre paper is composed of many genres and sub-genres, each piece self-contained, making a point of its own, yet connected by a theme or topic and sometimes by language, images, and content. In addition to many genres, a multigenre paper may also contain many voices, not just the author's. The trick is to make such a paper hang together." – Tom Romano, Blending Genre, Altering Style (x-xi)