Creative Final Project Checklist

Before you submit, please make sure that your project meets the assignment's requirements.

📚 GENERAL GUIDELINES

☐ **A Social Issue**
Your project makes connections to a social problem. It can range from an issue in your major or neighborhood to politics, education, race, gender, LGBTQ+, climate change, homelessness, etc.

☐ **Three Theories**
Your project must include 3 theories we learned in class about the relationship between science and society. These include anything covered during our discussions on (1) eugenics & social Darwinism, (2) biological determinism, (3) the myth of biological race, (4) scientific sexism, (5) ableism, (6) ethical issues in science, (7) animal rights, (8) elitism and classism in science, and (9) public understanding of science (e.g., disinformation). The connection to science should be front and center.
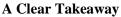
☐ **A Message**
You must have a clear message in your project about how scientific thinking and imagery has affected the social issue. This should be in the form of a thesis statement and supported by evidence (e.g., statistics, news articles, case studies, etc.).

☐ **Sourced Evidence**
You must use a minimum of 5 peer-reviewed articles and 3 additional informal sources. You are strongly encouraged to use what we have read in class.

☐ **A Clear Takeaway**
What do you want your imagined audience to learn from your project? Is your message clear and convicing?

🎨 MULTIMODAL REQUIREMENTS

☐ **Written (Mandatory)**
4-5 pages, 12pt, Times New Romance, double-spaced. Ane one of the following:

☐ **Short Fictional Story**
2-3 pages, 12 pt, Times New Roman, double-spaced.

☐ **Video or Audio Project (e.g. Podcast, TikTok, Documentary etc.)**
6-8 minutes long.

☐ **Comic book, zine, infographics**
6-8 panels for a comic book, 2-3 pages for a zine or infographic.

☐ **Visual Art (painting, photographs)**
Let's meet to talk about it!

☐ **Other**
Perhaps you want to create an interpretive dance, a song, a collection of poems, a statue, a website, etc. Let's talk!

Please email me at least 2 days before the due date if you have any questions about requirements, changing topics, and formats. Resources are available on Blackboard under the Final Project tab (e.g., how to cite, how to use the library website, how to make a video, etc.).

BRAINSTORM

1. What is your social issue?

2. How is it connected to science?

3. What is your message/thesis?

4. Who is your audience? Is your message clear to them?

5. What form will the multimodal part take (e.g., comic-book, painting, etc?)? What are your plans to achieve this?

6. How did what you learn in this course complicate, explain, or can potentially solve the social issue?

Dos and Don'ts

- Do make clear the connections between science and your topic. How are scientific thinking and discourses embedded in the social issue you have chosen? Explain how science and the issue are connected in your opinion.

- Do NOT make surface level or implicit connections. Do NOT just drop information and assume the audience will piece it together and that the connection is clear.

- Do include your opinion, experiences (as evidence), and reflective thinking.

- Do NOT rely on personal experiences alone as evidence, and do NOT turn the final project into an autobiographical essay.

- Do cite, reference, or allude to class discussions, videos we watched in class, readings, my PowerPoints (cited), group discussions, and other materials from the course in addition to external sources (e.g., quotes in comics, statistics in your poems, a case study in your song, etc.). Include a works cited page in APA, MLA, or Chicago.

- Do NOT spend a significant amount of time writing, speaking, or drawing about theories we have not covered in class. You may mention one or two related theories you've learned in another course or elsewhere as long as it directly connects to the social issue or scientific thinking.

- Do be playful, experimental, artistic, and exploratory with the format of your final project. Mix modalities, try something new by including in-text hyperlinks, images, memes, music, etc. Make connections to TV shows or movies, your life, your neighborhood, your generation, etc.

- Do NOT get sidetracked by aesthetics, perfectionism, etc. You have done a wonderful job so far in this class. You got this!

- Do trust your knowledge and what you have learned over the semester.

- Do NOT plagiarize, use AI, copy and paste information without citing and putting it in in " " marks or paraphrased in-text citation (Last name, year).

- Do start early and contact me (fmedina@gradcenter.cuny.edu) if you have questions or need support to brainstorm ideas, find sources, etc. I am here to support you.

- Do NOT wait until the night before or due day to start the project. **NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**