#black girl magic

the final digital Project   **Due/Go Public: December 19**

This class ends with a digital project. The final product of the course requires that you create a series of 3-4 webpages on the course website dedicated to the content of the course. The digital space will work as a kind of extended bibliography about the issues that we have read about.

You will create at least 3 webpages and each must somehow examine at least one text from the course. You could use your reading responses for this. Or, you could do something more thematically-based like create an annotated bibliography of YAL by Black women with young Black girl(s) as main protagonist. Or, you could follow through on your own sustained inquiry project that you have already decided and designed this semester. Or, you can even think of these pages as the digital component to a published article you are planning to submit. ***Please also feel free to partner on this project (just indicate that as soon as possible so that the website can be designed accordingly).***

So… Why This Digital Stuff?

Whether you intend to work for an institute or university in whatever capacity these spaces offer, you need a serious digital profile. This means more than having a single website, FBing/ tweeting/IGing regularly, or just putting something online. Your digital identity needs to be deliberate and well-crafted. All of your politics are out there… and all of your digital abilities are out there too.   Work it out now, not later.

ALL of you also need to get yourself in the habit of thinking of yourselves as researchers, scholars, and intellectuals. Many of you have taken on the spirit and soul of activist, teacher, educator… but academic, writer, etc? Not so much. STOP THAT! Whether you want to be professor/university faculty or not, you need to think about the scholarship you are creating and the ways you will disseminate it, for whom, when, and where.

In real RAW talk, you also can't be out here writing original, 25-page papers in grad classes where folk WILL jack yo shit in a heartbeat! There ain't nuthin nice about the academy; it is as ruthless as Wall Street so wake up to that real fast. The same folk who are criticizing you and your ideas will rip your concepts for their next publication. You need to have plans in the back of your head for publication when you take an idea/data public in a classroom, at a conference, etc. You have two surefire ways to do that: 1) get it up online and creative-commons-copyright it; 2) get it published in a book or journal (if you are going the university professor route, KNOW now that only journals count, not book chapters, when you are on tenure track). The real work of grad school is in being able to come up with an idea/topic/project that you can do sustained inquiry on--- if you can do that, consider yourself a hot commodity… because you ARE A SCHOLAR, NOT JUST A STUDENT.

What Do I Need to Be Aware of?

Keep these two things in mind:
FIRST, since this is a public-facing digital project, this means that the authors who you discuss will more than likely read what your webpages. This class thus holds you accountable for NOT merely talking ***about*** Black women and Black girls in that typical kind of voyeuristic, privileged-academic way… but also ***talking to them***! Make sure that Black women and girls are centered in your discussions, not secondary. *Please note that if Black women and girls are not central to your argument, your webpages will be deleted when the semester is over. You are welcome to sabotage your own career and credibility, but Carmen and her webspaces ain't gon be comin witchu!*

SECOND, you have experimented with the platform when you created your bio page. Now, you need to really work it. Be clear that your digital creativity is also implicitly being shown here. If your webpage is too slim, poorly planned, or

empty, that reflects on your skills. Think of each webpage as a magazine foldout, not a piece of paper, and not a never-ending scroll of randomly placed text and images.

Here are your expectations for the MAIN PAGE in your section (you can go beyond this but you must do all of these things):

1)	**Short Bio section**	Somewhere on the page, include a photo of yourself and your official 100-word bio. Do not exceed 100 words. Make a weblink to the extended bio page that you already have on the site.
2)	**Banner**	Display the title of your section prominently on your webpage. You can make your own gif if you like or use a banner (puresilvabannermaker.com is one example).
3)	**300-word Overview**	Write at least 300 words explaining what your section is about and why you chose this issue/topic. Explain what your subpages are and how they contribute to the overall project. *Think of this as a multimedia book with chapters.*
4)	**Weblinks/ Table of Contents (TOC)**	Use buttons, small icons, or words for your TOC. List/Visual every subpage with weblinks that will take folk to it. See the weblinks on the homepage for an example.
5)	**Original Header (video or image)**	If you use a video for your header, it can only be one minute. Collage images might work best on this platform (postermywall.com is a good digital collage maker). The header must be original. Note: you can always do wordart (in word or powerpoint) and animate it through imovie or windows movie maker (that is how the words #blackgirlmagic on the homepage were created). *Repeat this header across the subpages.*
NOTE: Please consider a creative commons license on this webpage. *This is optional.* The entire website will have this--- but that license will go to the site, not to you.		

Here are your expectations for the 2-3 SUBPAGES in your section (you can go beyond this but you must do all of these things):

1)	**Authors & Theme from the Course**	You must address at least one author from the course in *substantial* ways on EACH subpage. Make sure you include the bibliographic reference to the author in some way. Each page must be about Black women or girls since that is, of course, the COURSE.
2)	**Original Header (video or image)**	Repeat your main header for all subpages. This needs to be original and should NOT be the BlackGirlMagic logo from the course. Again, this is your digital footprint. Rake it up!
3)	**Section Design**	Use at least two section blocks in some kind of way on each page. You can select a color or you can use an image or video. If you use an image or a video as a section block, these need to be YOUR ORIGINALS. *Color-blocking is how digital writing makes transitions and does organization... very different from alphabetic. You are not just writing your ideas, you are designing and laying them out.*
4)	**At Least 1 Multimedia Element Per Subpage**	You have many options: a) Use prezi, google slides, slideshare, or the platform's slideshow to show some series of moving images. You will use the embed code to put this moving series on your webpage. b) Embed a youtube image somewhere and/or have an autoplay song using soundcloud. (There is a built-in audio player with the platform but you have to make sure that you use an open source song and/or a live performance that is not copyrighted per se). c) Include images from google, etc. If you use any images that are not your own, you will need to weblink back to the source.
5)	**Columns and Formation**	Do not design your webpage as one vertical series of very large images and words. Use columns and wrap images to the left and to the right!! *You will look like someone who does not understand digital design otherwise.*
NOTE: You should notice here that other than basic design elements, the requirements for your subpages are deliberately vague. Just make these pages REALLLY GOOD!		