

ASSIGNMENT 1: PRIMING FROM INSIDE OUT: LET’S HEAR ABOUT YOU

This assignment is to help you start remembering who you are, what you’ve done so far, what your interests currently are, and what you might like to check out in the future. Once we have a sense of these things, it gets much easier to connect your personal interests to your academic ones. The chart below contains fifty-six categories for you to think about. Your assignment is to note at least twenty-five categories that potentially interest you as a scholar, and respond to the “such as” prompts where you’ve indicated interest.

Profession Interests	Personal Interests	Social/ Political Interests	Performance Interests	Geography Interests	Media-Related Interests	Things that Excite/Disturb/ Interest You	Things about Your Own Work
Jobs you might like to do one day, like...	Exercising and/or playing sports, such as...	Surveillance and privacy interests, like...	Sports you watch, or even hate, such as...	Places you were born or grew up, such as	Photography (art photos, documentary, pop photos like selfies) , such as...	Books or essays you’ve read that excited or disturbed you, like...	Papers /projects that you are proud of, such as...
Jobs you always wondered about, ,such as...	Markets, Shopping, consumer culture, such as...	Political organizing and activism, such as...	Music— live or recorded such as...	Places you’ve lived or travelled , such as...	Films (commercial, indie, video, YouTube) , such as...	Film or TV you’ve seen that excited or disturbed you, such as...	Papers /projects you wish you had been able to do a better job on, such as...
Professional trends that interest you	Beauty or fashion trends that interest you, like...	Public health issues that interest you, such as...	Tourism and/or Travelling such as...	Places you’d like to visit, such as...	Television (news, adult programs, cartoons, etc), such as...	Art or photos you’ve seen that excited or disturbed you, like...	Papers /projects you wish you might be interested in expanding in some way, like...
Professional Controversies that interest you	Social trends that interest you, such as...	Counterfeit or ‘grey market’ culture interests, such as...	Street art and graffiti, such as...	Places your family is connected to, such as...	Print (magazines, literature, popular books), like...	Music you’ve heard that excited or disturbed you, such as...	Papers /projects it might be fun to think about in a cross-cultural way, such as...
Companies that interest you, like...	Dating issues that interest you, like...	Censorship /regulation Issues, such as...	Theatre or Dance, such as...	Imagined or enhanced places in books, films	Music (commercial, indie, etc.) , such as...	Worldviews or politics that excited or disturbed you, like...	Papers /projects by a classmate you found interesting, such as...
Role models who interest you	Family history stuff that interests you	Intimacy / Sexual display interests, such as...	Religious activities such as...	Non-physical places online, such as...	Internet (websites, social media, file sharing, etc), like	Live events that excited or disturbed you, like....	Section of a former class you enjoyed exploring, such as...
Branding issues that interests you, like...	Food that interest you, such as...	Violence-related interests, such as...	Museums and exhibits , such as...	Mental ‘places’ like nostalgia, etc..	Advertising campaigns (pro, indie, ‘viral’ etc.), such as	Historical events that excited or disturbed you, such as...	Section of a class you wish you had more time to explore, like...

ASSIGNMENT 2: OBJECTS FROM THE INSIDE-OUT: INTERNET EXERCISE

You'd be surprised how much information you can get from looking at your most recent web surfing habits. Take a look through the last few days of your online time, and note down links you've clicked on out of interest in the realm of politics, entertainment, sport, history, fashion, music, or anything else. Now pretend you are on a desert island, and your passage back to civilization depended on you coming up with three research objects out of those interests. What would they be?

1. Topic 1: _____, inspired by something I read at this link:

2. Topic 2: _____, inspired by something I read at this link:

3. Topic 3: _____, inspired by something I read at this link:

ASSIGNMENT 3: PRIMING FROM OUTSIDE IN: GRADE THIS OUR CLASS BIBLIOGRAPHY!

This assignment is designed to help begin to “think selfishly” about your class bibliography. First, go over the bibliography to this class. For each entry, rate what you think your interest will be in the topic being covered, using a ‘grade’ system of A-C, with A being the highest mark. At the end, make a list of the topics you’ve marked with an “A” or a “B”.

At times, you will come across an entry on the bibliography that you currently feel so-so about, but might find very exciting with an alteration or two. The “This would be so much more interesting if...” sentiment is one that drives a million paper ideas. For instance, in this syllabus, there might be a reading about art photography that seems potentially interesting, but you would be **really** excited if it were about documentary photography. In a different class, you might come across a historical conversation on opium trade in China interests you marginally, a contemporary conversation about cocaine trade in South America would really exiting be to you.

1. Here are the titles of three readings on the syllabus that seem interesting to me (i.e. I gave them a grade of A or A-)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

2. Here are three readings that might interest me (i.e. I gave them a grade of A- , B+ or B) if they were changed in the following ways:

- a. I'm somewhat interested in the reading titled,

but I'd be more interested if the topic were shifted to

- b. I'm somewhat interested in the reading titled,

but I'd be more interested if the topic were shifted to

- c. I'm somewhat interested in the reading titled,

but I'd be more interested if the topic were shifted to
