

Final Project

The Arts in New York City
Prof. Pentangelo
Summer 2026

I. Assignment

There are two parts to your final assignment – the final project and the final presentation.

1. Project

A collaborative final creative project in which students will work together in groups or alone to propose a public arts project to take place in a neighborhood of the group's choice. You are not required to actually carry out this arts project; your task is to devise a proposal. Groups/students shared their project ideas with me on July 14th and had these approved the following week. Any deviation from the approved project idea is not inherently forbidden but may lead to a lower grade if the unapproved project idea is unsuitable for the assignment.

The public arts projects should be responsive to the needs or interests of the communities in which they are to be situated. Students should address why the proposed public art project is appropriate for this community. Projects should also address how they will be funded – this should include projected costs and a reasonably realistic description of how this amount of funding would be secured, e.g. specific grants or funders.

Recall the final project question sheet that was shared with the following questions:

- In what neighborhood are you interested in situating your public arts project?
- Why?
- What kind of public arts project are you thinking of? (Sculpture, performance, etc.)
- Why?
- How do you propose this project would be funded?

All must be addressed, in a reasonably fleshed-out form, in your final project. Final projects should be at least 500 words long. Illustrations are strongly encouraged.

2. Presentation

During our last class session, both sections of MHC 110 will be brought together to give brief (~10 minute) presentations of their final projects, followed by discussions with the class. You may use slides, but they are not required. Touch upon all aspects of the prompt given above for the final project, but do not feel pressured to discuss every aspect of your project. After all, you only have 10 minutes!

II. Rubric

1. Project (20 points maximum)

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Statement of creative goal and community significance/relevance.	Clearly articulates or expresses a creative goal and its relevance or significance to the community in question.	Limited discussion of creative goal. Significance to the community is poorly articulated.	Minimal discussion of creative goal. Significance to the community is very poorly articulated.	Little or no discussion of creative goal. Significance to the community is not discussed.
Clear and thoughtful writing.	Writing is clear. Thoughts build on one another. The discussion is well thought out.	Writing is mostly clear. The thought-process behind the writing can be followed, but there are some non-sequiturs or unclear jumps in logic.	Some ideas are expressed clearly, but the overall idea is hard to follow or understand.	Thoughts are disconnected, reading like stream-of-consciousness or a series of separate, unrelated ideas.
Creative approach.	Creative idea is original and appropriate, i.e. the public art being proposed does not already exist in that community, but would conceivably be welcome there.	Limited consideration of whether the public art being proposed already exists in the community or whether it would be appropriate for the community.	Minimal consideration of whether the public art being proposed already exists in the community or whether it would be appropriate for the community.	Creative idea is either unoriginal or inappropriate – it already exists in the community, or it would not be welcome there.
Practical considerations.	How the public art would be funded and where it would be located is described specifically (e.g. a specific gallery and a specific grant).	How the public art would be funded and where it would be located is described generally (e.g. “in a theater,” “with a mix of private and public funding”).	How the public art would be funded and where it would be located is described minimally, or either one of these considerations is not discussed.	How the public art would be funded and where it would be located is not described.
Addresses the assignment.	Project addresses all aspects of the assignment.	Project addresses most aspects of the assignment, but at least one part is left unaddressed.	Project incompletely addresses the assignment.	Project addresses half or less of the assignment.

2. **Presentation** (10 points maximum)

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Addresses the assignment.	Presentation addresses all aspects of the assignment.	Presentation addresses most aspects of the assignment, but at least one part is left unaddressed.	Presentation incompletely addresses the assignment.	Presentation addresses half or less of the assignment.
Clear and thoughtful presentation.	Presentation is clear. Thoughts build on one another. The discussion is well thought out.	Presentation is mostly clear. The thought-process behind the writing can be followed, but there are some non-sequiturs or unclear jumps in logic.	Some ideas are expressed clearly, but the overall idea is hard to follow or understand.	Thoughts are disconnected, coming across like stream-of-consciousness or a series of separate, unrelated ideas.
Timeliness and courtesy.			Presentation does not go over time. Presenter(s) are familiar with the materials they are presenting.	Presentation exceeds 10 minutes. Presenters seem unfamiliar with the content they are presenting.

III. AI Policy

As a reminder: The use of any generative AI platform (e.g. ChatGPT, Gemini, etc.) or AI feature (e.g. the AI presentation maker in Canva, the AI writing assistance in Grammarly, etc.) to generate or improve your project or presentation is entirely prohibited and will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment. A second offense may lead to a failing grade in the class. Remember: the project and presentation count as two separate assignments, so if you use AI on both, you are likely to fail the class. You are discouraged in the strongest possible terms from using AI for any academic work in this class.