

Podcast: The Oviatt's "L.A. in Film" Exhibit

For your final assignment, each student will make a podcast episode that chases after 1-2 good questions related to your research issue/topic regarding LA archives in film & pop culture. Podcasts are a research genre, so we're using the podcast to drive our semester-long research inquiry and ground this course's final project. You will compose your podcast in audio with text, voice, possibly music, and lots of research. Your podcast needs to be based on one of the films featured in the Oviatt's current exhibit. The link is below.

<https://library.csun.edu/SCA/LibraryExhibits/losangeles>

Ultimately, in your podcast, you're working to construct a new way of seeing your topic/issue that does more than just reproduce the arguments of others; you're composing your own meaning and knowledge with an original thesis, as you would do in an essay. Remember, the point of this assignment is to productively pursue your research in an alternative format that still embraces writing and argumentation. For example, podcasters, like good researchers and writers, make connections for their audience and draw out unique arguments and conclusions. Even though podcasting might not look like "writing" to you, you'll still need to implement the writing moves that you've been working on at CSUN. Think: citation practices, audience awareness, evolving a topic, crafting a unique argument, and so forth. Read the Podcasting guide on our Canvas site for more information.

Augmenting the Oviatt's "LA in Film" exhibit, your podcasts will serve as an exhibit enhancement by spring semester and will be publicly accessible until the end of school year and through the summer. You will design a podcast that uses our course readings and themes to analyze one of the Oviatt's exhibit's selected films. Podcasting requires planning and even perhaps a script/outline, so imagine that one double-spaced page takes 2-2.5 minutes to read out loud. Thus, a 10-12 page, double-spaced paper is often a good fit for a 20-25 minute podcast.

I want these podcasts to be fun, so I am giving you leeway to be creative in design and structure! Podcasts have different forms that are also genres: one-on-one interviews, panel/guest commentary, solo commentary, nonfiction or fiction creative storytelling, repurposed content, or a hybrid of one of these forms. I am open to any form, but, as mentioned, the podcast needs to be largely focused on the Oviatt text and put forth some kind of original argument. The podcast form I am imagining many of you will choose is the solo commentary or non-fiction storytelling (like the real-life podcasts Lore or Serial). [Here's a quick explanation of podcast forms](#)

In your podcast, you could, for example, focus on Chinatown as eco-noir or even discuss the social position and class of toons in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*.

Assignment Requirements

--Podcast must explore one of the films featured in the Oviatt's current exhibit.

--Podcast must be in an MP3 audio format.

--Podcast can compare and contrast a library exhibit film with one of our class texts. Your podcast may also build off of your short essay and be focused on our course's themes and readings. However, keep in mind that the podcast needs to give equal or more time to the library exhibit film, because this podcast will be an addition to their online exhibit.

--Minimum 15 minute podcast for students working alone; 30 minute podcasts for partners.

--Minimum one secondary source used for the podcast, but I encourage you to use multiple sources.

--When referencing a source in the podcast, you do not need to say/articulate the full MLA citation--you can say the name of the critic and even the name of the work, but that's it!

--Transcription of podcast should be based on the template available online and should be turned in on Canvas as a Microsoft Word document for accessibility (if you choose to read from a script/essay, simply fill out the transcript template and paste in essay).

--When it's time to submit your work, turn in your transcription/essay to the assignment on Canvas and email me your MP3 file.