

## Space Essay assignment description

Draft due Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> for workshop

**Presentations May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, Final & artist's statement due May 12<sup>th</sup>**

We have been reading and thinking and talking about ourselves and other people and a bit about our place in the universe. Think about **the spaces you inhabit**—travel, home, school, the grocery store. Where have you been and where are you going? You can write about a city, a trip, the wilderness, a coffee shop, a walk in the woods, your room, a mountaintop, the ocean, a route you run or bike or hike or kayak. This will be a multimodal work, with interactivity and text, and also images, audio, and video if you choose. These web-based hypertexts are meant to be “digital-born,” meaning composed in the medium and for the medium; as we’ve seen, electronic texts should need the medium in some way. You should consider multimodal elements you have seen that worked or did not work, forms that were appropriate for the medium and those that were not. Compose your design to reflect your narrative, the space you are taking us to, and the meaning you want to convey.

### Method

You have several software options for this project. Since we are focusing on our place in the world and the spaces we inhabit, you will be using map or link-based software for this project. Good options are: Google Earth, Knightlab’s Scene (easier than Timeline!), Twine, or ThingLink. Several of these have 360 options (encouraged for this immersive assignment!). We will look at these in class and you can decide what works for what you want to create. Choose a medium that fits your message.

Google Earth: <https://www.google.com/earth/>

Knightlab Scene: <https://knightlab.northwestern.edu/>

Twine: <https://twinery.org/>

ThingLink: <https://www.thinglink.com> (invite code: TDJ2DZ)

Blender: <https://www.unrealengine.com/en-US/> (Links to an external site.)

Carrd: <https://carrd.co/> (Links to an external site.)

Dreamweaver (if you have access)

As you have already discovered this semester, as with any technology, there will be hiccups and tweaks, make sure you plan extra time for this. We will also spend some time in class working on these together as well as a workshop, and presentations the last two days of class for additional feedback.

\*This assignment includes a **brief artist statement (1-2 pages)** reflecting on your design and creative choices, how your medium fits your message and conveys the space you are presenting.

**Length & format**

**Approx. 1500-2000+ words (5-7ish + pages).** You will also be turning in a word doc. for comments. These pieces can be as multimodal as your tools and imagination will allow! Be creative! This assignment is worth **20%** of your final grade.