

COVIDIARY

OVERVIEW

You will produce three stories for a blog that the entire Photojournalism program will participate in through the rest of the semester to tell stories about how the larger RIT community is dealing with the fallout from the Coronavirus and social distancing.

You will do the reporting from a safe distance, largely remotely, but each story will be told and produced at a level that is consistent with the quality in technique and narrative that we would expect under more normal circumstances, but adjusted for any lack of equipment or production set up that is not available.

FILE TRANSFER LOGISTICS

We will not continue to use the CAD Courses server for this semester. Instead, please use Google Drive, Dropbox, Flickr, YouTube, WeTransfer or other 3rd party file transfer programs. Please use my jhmpph@g.rit.edu account to share links.

ASSIGNMENT - PART I

Of the three stories, the first will be about you. You should have been documenting your own situation, whom you're staying with, images of yourself, traveling, social distancing, adjusting to change, and the situation that you now find yourself. You can choose to include images, produce a video, produce an audio story or write, but your work must include a narrative. In other words, you wouldn't just publish a few images with captions. Tell a story about your situation.

The content can be as straight forward as you'd like or you can make something that talks more about how you're feeling or what you see and think about the situation as it unfolds.

For rough guidelines (again, nothing set in stone), writing might be 1-2 pages, images would be less than a dozen, video or audio would be 2-5 minutes in length. Again those are very rough guidelines.

The goal with this story is both to make a great narrative, but also to turn it around quickly. **I'd like to see a working rough draft of your project by Friday, March 27.**

1. In myCourses for the Assignment "Covidary Part I" write a paragraph talking about what medium you'll report in and what your story is roughly about. Explain what you've been documenting and what concerns you have that I could help you with. **Due 11:59pm Monday, March 23.**
2. **March 24-25** I'll schedule a time to chat with each of you individually either on the phone, gChat or Zoom.
3. **March 27** Rough Draft Due - Use file transfer logistics listed above (DO NOT USE myCOURSES OR COURSES SERVER)
4. **March 28** I'll give you feedback immediately for immediate revision to prep for publication.
5. **March 30** Final Draft Due

DUE DATES

Part I

11:59 pm March 23 - Idea
 March 24-25 - Discuss w/ me
 March 27 - Rough Draft
 March 30 - Final Draft

Parts II, III

11:59pm Mar 25 - Brainstorm

In myCourses, find the discussion forum topic for Covidary and build a list of ideas for Parts II and III. These can be as specific as an individual by name you'd like to do a story on or a type of person, like "International student from China" or "Person who has a relative with Coronavirus" or "Faculty with small kids at home."

List a minimum of 15 ideas

11:59pm Mar 27 - Responses

*In myCourses, respond to one another's ideas with follow up ideas, suggestions, etc. Go through everyone's ideas and those which you have suggestions for or additions, add those. Each of you is responsible for making a **minimum of 10 comments.***

Don't worry if several students have similar ideas. The point of this exercise is to drum up ideas but also keep track of the diversity of stories.

One thing you may want to comment on is what we seem to be missing in our idea list.

PHPJ 455

Production Deadline (Parts II & III)

Like our other assignments in this class, I'm going to give you the autonomy to set up your own deadlines for each of these based on how much time you think you'll need. Give me a list of deadlines for both Part II and Part III for each of Idea, Rough and Final.

So that we can publish well in advance of the end of the semester, your last FINAL deadline should be no later than Sunday, April 26.

Try to get the deadlines as early as possible within reason to do a good job so that we can publish regularly and quickly to the blog.

ASSIGNMENT - PARTS II & III

The second two stories for this project will be about others in the RIT community and family. These can come from students, faculty or staff. As noted on the previous page, we'll dive right into some brainstorming on the discussion forum for Covidiary. Think about the broader community of RIT. 18,000 students plus faculty and staff. Tremendous diversity and variety of situations to tell stories about.

Begin by creating a minimum of 15 ideas each. Feel free to generate many more. Remember that other PJ and photo classes are doing a similar assignment, so the goal is to develop a large list of stories, then the faculty will organize those and begin to assign.

Feel free to be as specific as you want (to a name of a student) or more general, like "student athlete" or "administrator."

The only two deadlines for this that are set in stone are the brainstorming and time to give classmates feedback. The rest of the deadlines will, in spirit of other assignments be self-directed.

Once you're assigned your story ideas, send me a proposed deadline structure within 2 days (idea research, rough draft, final draft) with the final draft being NO LATER than Sunday, April 26 to allow time to edit and post before the end of the semester.

Please be as quick as you can about the deadlines. We want stories up quickly, so give yourself enough time to produce, but not enough that you're sitting on them. The blog will hopefully be something that brings our community together, and to do that well, we need content published.

I will edit your projects and approve for publication, working closely with you through rough drafts.