

Creative Project 1: Family History Zine

Assignment Handout

Course: ART 120: Introduction to Studio Art Practice

Due Date: Friday, February 14, 2025

Assignment

Create a zine about your family history.

This can be interpreted in any way you'd like, but we encourage you to think outside the family tree trope. Instead, collect stories, images, and ideas from your ancestors. You are free to interpret the idea of 'family' and 'ancestor' in any way you wish. It doesn't need to be your literal family. It can include your intellectual or spiritual family.

You have the option of creating a physical bound booklet, or an interactive digital experience. The physical work can be in any medium – from digital prints, to hand-crafted, and everything in between.

Guidelines

1. Topic: Family History

- Some questions or concepts to ideate on could be:
 - Individual stories, collective experiences, or generational shifts.
 - Your family's origin story
 - How does your family's history intersect with larger historical movements?
 - What legacies (emotional, physical, intellectual) have been passed down?
 - How do you feel connected to your family across time, space, or culture?
 - What objects or materials are a part of your family identity?

2. Media and Format

- **Physical Zine:** Your zine can take any physical form—handmade, digitally printed, collaged, drawn, sewn, or even a combination of various materials and processes. Explore binding methods that support your story.
- **Digital Zine:** Alternatively, create a digital zine using tools such as PDFs, HTML, interactive websites, or multimedia platforms.
- **Material exploration:** Experiment with different media and formats.
 - Think about how the medium of your zine communicates its message. Is there something about a tactile, hand-crafted book that enhances the stories you're telling? Or does the flexibility of digital tools help bring your family history to life in a way that physical media cannot?
 - Explore aspects such as color, typography, texture, layout and binding methods to how the form influences the audience's experience

Deliverables

- **Physical Zine OR Digital Zine.**

AND

- A brief written reflection (approximately 500 words) explaining your creative process, choices of materials/media, and how the zine communicates the theme of family history. Reflect on:
 - Your work's context. What themes are you investigating? What does your audience need to know?
 - How does the format (physical or digital) influence the message?
 - **Presentation:** Whether in a physical or digital format, present your work thoughtfully and creatively. Consider how you present your zine to the audience as a part of the final product.
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Project 1 Class Schedule

Each class, you can expect to:

- discuss or present the homework
- a workshop, presentation, or demonstration to inform your zine making
- and peer and/or instructor feedback on your zine progress.

Jan 24 Class:	Introduction to the project
Due Jan 31:	4 sketches/concepts for your zine accompanying imagery for each
Jan 31 Class:	Quick Zine exercise Binding Demonstration Share 4 concept sketches
Due Feb 7:	Draft of your zine Tadanori Yokoo article from ARTWORK reading and response (available as PDF on class site)
Feb 7 Class:	Reading discussion Digital Storytelling presentation 1 on 1 feedback and work time
Due Feb 14:	Final Zine/Critique presentation
Feb 14 Clas:	Project 1 Critique