

The New Commons Project Public Intervention

OVERVIEW

Your group's challenge for this project is to develop, propose, and implement an intervention or interruption in public space (off campus). The goal of this project is to directly engage the public in a specific dialogue. This project presents an opportunity for activism through the exposure, inversion or subversion of existing power structures. Consider ways that your group could use and infiltrate existing cultural structures, power structures and/or architecture to create an effective intervention. It is important for your group to consider the dynamic relationships between the message and "voice" of your chosen method of intervention, the scale of the work, and the specific location. Experiment with how these elements, along with public interaction, work together to influence meaning.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1) Demonstrate nuanced understanding of voice, scale, and location.
- 2) Identify and translate a shared message or question into a single intervention, potentially drawn from individual members' manifestos.
- 3) Intervene meaningfully in public space by infiltrating a cultural structure or architecture.
- 4) Engage the public directly in a specific dialogue based on a shared message or question.
- 5) Analyze how the public engaged with the work during the intervention.

RATIONALE

Banksy's art centrally explores the relationship between the individual and public spaces. This project asks you to negotiate this relationship through the lens of your group's shared beliefs, ideas, or values. Although your project need not (and should not) replicate the tone, message, or aesthetic of Banksy's own work, it will nevertheless allow your group the opportunity to engage the public in a creative way. Because the project is open-ended, your group has the freedom to define how and why your intervention should take place.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- 1) You will work in your small groups for planning, proposing, and implementing your public intervention.
- 2) Each group will produce a public intervention.
- 3) Your group will submit one proposal (two to three pages) that explains the technique, goals, rationale, and anticipated outcomes of your public intervention. Also, the proposal should contain a sketch or score (a set of directives or performance plan). The group will present the proposal to the class for discussion and ideas.
- 4) Your group has a budget of \$20 for the project. Save your receipts.
- 5) At the end of the project sequence, each person will submit an individual analytical essay (two to three pages) at the end of the project sequence that examines the way the public engaged your group's intervention.

FORMATTING

The public intervention will be formatted in accordance with your creative vision. The proposal, individual analytical essay, and self-assessment rubrics should be shared on Google Drive.

***This assignment is not an excuse for vandalism or the destruction of public or private property. Such acts will result in a failing grade.**