Now that we’re into the second half of the quarter and focusing more on the final video, I wanted to give you more of a breakdown about how the grading is going to work for that, and what sort of grading rubric we’re going to be using.

I explained at the start of the quarter (and detailed on the syllabus) that 70% of your grade for the quarter would be based on the video, and 30% on participation. The video grade is a group grade, while the participation grade is an individual grade.

For the 30% participation grade, half will come from the records that Katherine, Moury, and I have been keeping about people’s participation in class, performance in the team activities, attendance, and so on. The other half will be determined by peer assessment; we will ask each of you at the end of the quarter to assess how much each member of your team has contributed to the team activities.

The 70% video grade will be broken down as follows:

25% on conceptualization — the argument that your video makes, the depth of thinking that went into the ideas, and the degree to which it expresses your own intellectual work. In the same way that a term paper would need to have its own new ideas to develop rather than just repeating back formulaic responses, the video needs to express your own ideas.

15% on execution — “execution” here is translating your argument into video form. So, this considers how you chose to turn your ideas into a video (how well the genre matches the ideas, and how you conveyed the argument in video form).

10% on production — this concerns the mechanics of video production, and basically considers the work you put into making and editing the video materials themselves.

20% on the writeup — each video will be accompanied by a 2-3 page overview that sets out the main argument and explains how you tried to address and convey it.

Conceptualization and execution scores will be graded across the different materials that you’re handing in, which means the brief descriptions you’ve just given us (although those were very brief and so aren’t going to have very much of an impact at all) and the treatments we’re asking for in week seven as well as the final video.

Hope this helps with your planning. I’ll have some other pointers for you on the video stuff next week.

—p.