

“Deliberate Intentions”
Research Preparation Part II
Due Monday, April 9h, 2012

Please complete the following multi-stage, research preparation assignment, addressing each section in order. Take a break between each stage to “collect” yourself and your ideas.

This assignment is pretty straightforward, yet it is by no means simple. Please take your time, and give this a great deal of thought.

For Monday, I would like you to do the following:

1. Make a list of possible *methods* you will use to gather information for your chosen subject of research, and include the *types* of sources you plan to investigate. Your list might include a variety of people, places, and things (articles, essays, books, films, maps, websites), as well as a variety of different activities in support of your project (interviews, observations).
2. In either a double-entry format, or in a more free ranging writing exercise, ask and answer as many focusing questions as you possibly can about these sources and activities, and do so in light of your research goals.
3. Once you have finished stages one and two, see if your research goals have changed in any way, and write down what these changes consist of. for example, if you have seen a way that an interview or survey approach might influence your choices of textual inquiry, write this down, and perhaps describe what you have seen through this exercise.
4. Having completed this last evaluation of your goals, try to describe the “shape” your work will ultimately take. In other words, in a paragraph or two, tell me how you plan to design your work, both in its execution and ultimate form. This does not have to be a decisive account, as this will not be set in stone at this point. Rather, it should allow you to move from the preparatory work that you did in the first part of this working portfolio, to the research activity proper, which will occupy you for the remainder of the semester.

Once again, we will discuss these assignments in class on Monday. Please be prepared to give some feedback to your classmates.