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### Recomposition and Information Literacy

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# Recomposition and Information Literacy

Bailey McAlister, Georgia State University





# Recomposition

What is it?



# Recomposition

“More elements and others’ elements become much more readily available to mix, mash, and merge . . . What is obvious here is that composing in the digital age is different than traditional practices of composing. Rhetorical practices in a digital age are different than traditionally conceived. Electronic copying-and-pasting, downloading, and networked filesharing change the dynamics of writing and, importantly, of delivery.”

Ridolfo and DeVoss, “Composing for Recomposition”



# Recomposition

Students take a piece of composition and recompose it for a new audience.

Traditional essay → multimodal piece



## Recomposition





# Information literacy

“Information literacy is a crucial skill in the pursuit of knowledge. It involves recognizing when information is needed and being able to efficiently locate, accurately evaluate, effectively use, and clearly communicate information in various formats.”

Wesleyan University



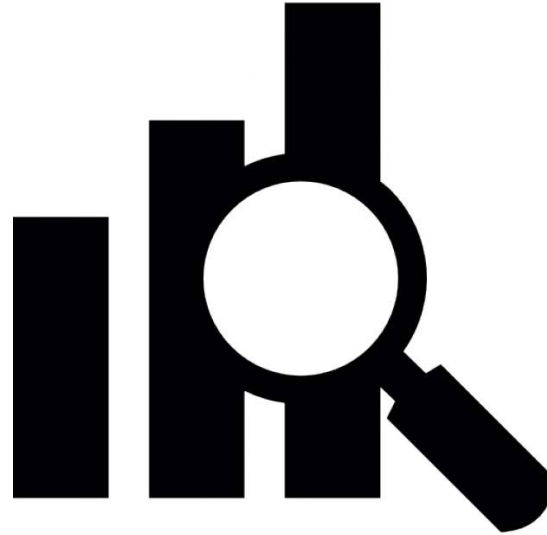
# Information literacy

- Identify
- Locate
- Evaluate
- Synthesize
- Present
- Translate





## Recomposition





# Recomposition project

Visual culture of FYC students

“Visual culture opens up an entire world of intertextuality in which images, sounds, and spatial delineations are read on to and through one another, lending ever-acruing layers of meanings and of subjective responses.”

Irit Rogoff, 2004



# Recomposition project

Visual culture of FYC students

“As society has undergone paradigmatic change, so too have our primary communication modes and hence our processes of learning. In particular, the recent social upheaval has been marked by the proliferation and centrality of images in our daily lives.”

Dickinson and Ott, 2009



# Recomposition project

Information literacy

“Information literacy empowers people in all walks of life to seek, evaluate, use and create information effectively to achieve their personal, social, occupational and educational goals. It is a basic human right in a digital world.”

International Federation of Library Associations, 2018



## Recomposition project criteria

- Students could choose whatever kind of project they wanted
- Students composed their own rubrics
- Presentations were organized conference-style

# Results

Students sought out ways to make their information accessible for a specific, digital audience.



# Results

They considered the different rhetorical strategies they could use.



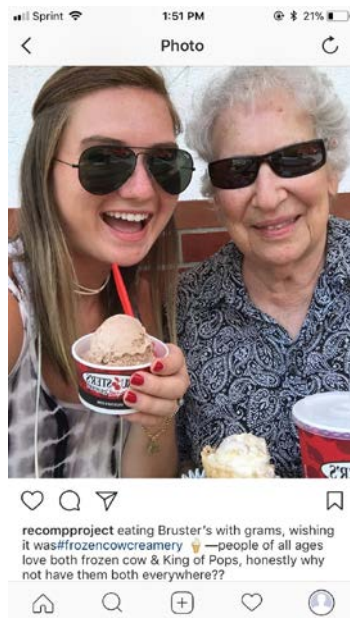
# Results

They produced really good work, had fun expressing themselves, and worked hard without being burned out at the end of the semester.





# Results





## Benefits for them

- A chance to be graded on non-traditional composition
- Creative expression
- Practice composing and presenting presentations
- Learn how to fuse the academic with the personal/social



## Benefits for me

- Easier grading for the final assignment
- Learn about information literacy and first-year composition
- See the students in a different way



# Recomposition

- Allows students to develop their information literacy skills
- Empowers students to use information to achieve their goals
- Helps students develop their skills in rhetoric
- Encourages students to find their voice and express themselves

Thank you!



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