

SAST 063/ANTH 063/HIST 087, Spring 2012

East & West: A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Cultural History of the Modern World

Voiceover Powerpoint Assignment: Prepare a 5-minute Voiceover Powerpoint Presentation that traces a change in meaning related to one particular commodity. You may trace a shift in meaning that occurs as a commodity moves from one geographical context to another, or you may examine a change in meaning over time in a single geographical location. Videos will be uploaded and each recitation section will view a subset of the videos and then vote to choose the most effective video in their group. The top videos will be screened in class.

1. Identify a commodity that we have not studied closely in class, or, if you have an interest in further researching a commodity that we have already discussed extensively, you should choose an aspect or context of production or consumption that we have not examined together. Submit a one-page proposal for your presentation in your recitation section and on Blackboard on **February 24 or 27**. Your proposal should indicate (a) the commodity you plan to research, and the specific aspect and context you are planning to focus on (bear in mind the fact that you are looking for changes in meaning); (b) whether you will work alone or in a group, and if in a group, the names and section numbers of each person in your group (no more than 3 total); and (c) at least three **peer-reviewed** sources that you plan to consult in preparing your presentation, with a brief statement explaining why you think each will be useful.
2. Conduct your research by reading the peer-reviewed sources you have found and any other additional sources that may help you to further focus and develop one specific argument regarding a specific change in meaning of your commodity in a particular context. Once you've identified your specific, focused thesis argument, decide what evidence or support you will use to persuade your audience of your argument, and prepare a transcript of no more than 5 minutes that presents your argument and evidence.
3. Locate or prepare visual images that you can use to support and illustrate your presentation. Images may include maps, pictures or other images, animation, charts, tables, short video clips, footage of yourself speaking, or any other visuals that you feel would help strengthen your presentation. (Note: you may wish to identify these images before you prepare the transcript in step 2.)
4. Once you have created your Powerpoint presentation, you may either use the narration feature within Powerpoint to record the narration for each slide and then capture the whole show with Jing, or you can use Jing software to record the entire voiceover at one time (instructions will be provided).
5. Upload your presentation by **Friday, March 23**. Be sure to include a complete bibliography of sources consulted in preparing your presentation (you may do this on the last powerpoint slide, or in a separate document).

Evaluation Criteria: Presentations will be evaluated primarily on the effectiveness of the argument and the clarity of the evidence marshalled in support. Mastery of the technical aspects of the presentation will be considered secondary to the actual content (both vocal and visual content). This means that you should devote the bulk of your time to thoroughly researching your chosen topic and to developing a strong and effective thesis argument and selecting effective visual supporting images. Please feel free to meet with one of us if you are having difficulty doing so. (See attached sample of the grade sheet that will be used for further details regarding the evaluation criteria.)