Audio Documentary

This course culminates into your largest project of the semester, the audio documentary. Longer than a podcast, this production will involve research, field recording, interviewing, (local) travel, and considerably more planning and post-production. For this project, you will plan and produce a 45-60 minute audio documentary focusing on the topic of “silenced voices in Philadelphia.” We will discuss the many possible interpretations of this theme in class, but your goal is to look—or listen—for the underrepresented voices in our community, and capture their perspectives, stories, significance, value, etc. As with the last project, you may work either individually or in groups, though for this project I strongly encourage working in groups due to the amount of work required to complete this project. I will allow groups of 2-4 students. For your final exam, you will deliver a brief presentation on your project, discussing equipment, processes, ideas, and conclusions.

You will be evaluated on your ability to 1) integrate research and music into your documentary, 2) draw on the conventions of the audio documentary genre(s), 3) produce a captivating piece (your audience for this project: other students/faculty/staff at SJU), 4) constructing a well-produced piece of audio (clarity, volume, fidelity, etc.), 5) perform and integrate interviews, and 6) your ability to make effective arguments/statements/“so whats.”