Research in Foundational Teams: Guidelines, Posting your Work, & Presentations

Goal

1. The goal of this phase of research is to broadly characterize the current situation from many perspectives, including predictions about desires for the very near future. This will help us understand some of the complexity of those involved with the “contested space” around the Arb Office/Garage.

2. The end of this process asks you to synthesize your work and attempt to prioritize themes, ideas, players who will allow us to connect strongly to the unstable climate future of Minnesota and an Arb Complex with a higher campus and community profile.

Process Guidelines & Structure
Everyone is now in a research team as noted below.

- ARB HISTORY – History, Mission, and Usage
- ARB LAND – Land management and stewardship (land ethic)
- CLIMATE – MN local and regional climate issues (drought, flooding, ag/farming)
- BUILT STRUCTURES – Perspectives from users of structures that currently exist in area around Arb Office/Garage
- CAMPUS- Sustainability and Energy Use (larger campus context)

Within each team, each of you has a subarea that you are researching and/or specific people you are talking with to gather information. Your information should be coming from people and other sources, as appropriate. Trish and Taylor have worked to connect you to people you may not know on campus and in the community.

Timeline
Week 1 - Get in teams according to interest areas

Week 2 - Meet with Trish/Taylor to launch, find resources, find individual areas for focus

Week 3 - Gather information, talk to people (do the work)

Week 4 - Write up what you learned on our Google site for the course project (words, images, audio, video welcome)
Weeks 4-5 – Reporting out on your work. Powerpoint (or its equivalent) presentations, 8 slides per team, everyone participates roughly equally in creation of presentation and its delivery. Plan on 12 minutes per presentation, 3 minutes for questions.

- Friday April 24 – 1 presentation
- Monday April 27 – 3 presentations
- Wednesday April 29 – 1 presentation followed by discussion that starts to better define next steps, focus, and priorities for the design project

Posting Your Research Results
Trish has built a Google project site where everything will be posted for the project.

Post all your content so others can read it by the time of your class presentation.

Our Google site (inside of Carleton) can be found at this link: https://sites.google.com/a/carleton.edu/carleton-arb-complex-redesign-project/

A tutorial made by Trish for our Google sites work is available at: https://sites.google.com/a/carleton.edu/google-sites-tutorial/

Examples of Google sites made by previous students in this course can be found below. Do not worry about the size or length of sites, but rather their overall style and appearance (high visual)! You do not need this level of polish at this point; we can tune that later.

- https://sites.google.com/a/carleton.edu/black-death/
- https://sites.google.com/a/carleton.edu/glaciers/

You can also access our project site by using your Carleton email (with NO password) to enter Google Sites. You will then enter your Carleton username and password. Our site name should appear on a list.

1. **Front Page.** At this point, each team has one existing page where results can be posted. You need to add two parts to this page. Please put a general Overview on this front page. Include a bit of text that frames your results and their areas. Add a key visual or two that draws in the reader. Also put a Synthesis section here (see below).

2. **Personal Page.** Trish has made a new page for each person posting results in your subareas. Put your research results here. Attempt to organize your results into several sensible categories or themes, with headings.

Please include links to key resources if they are online. Include visuals (images, video), audio (if relevant) and files (of interview transcripts, other things). The idea is to put all your resources here for this phase of the project so everyone can access them later if needed.
Each person should be writing the equivalent of about 3-5 pages of text (double spaced), plus images, on their area of research. Please focus this writing on the following questions. Mix visuals in with your text to help bring this work to life.

- Describe what you have learned from each of your major sources (people, online, N55 work, etc.). On other words, report out on your results. You can think of this as a summary of more detailed information in your sources. Focus on the major landmarks from your sources. Please write in your own words and your own voice – assuming your audience is comprised of others on campus. The more you can report in a visual way or with tables/charts/images, the more effective your communication will be.

- What are the critical issues, concerns (of others and your own), and tensions raised by your personal research?

- Based on what you have learned, what are the issues that should receive the highest priority and attention in the next design phase of our work?

All images should have a URL attached (put it right below image in smaller print).

All references should be cited at the bottom of each web page.

Be sure to attach files and make links on this page too, if you have them.

3. **Synthetic Questions.** Once you have completed your individual research, meet with your team to discuss and write up responses to the following and post them on the web site on your team front page under the heading of *Synthesis.*

- **Issues.** What are the critical issues, concerns (of others and your own), and tensions raised by your research? Sort through your individual responses to this question, prioritize, integrate, connect – and create a new response for your research area as a whole. Synthesize.

- **Design Priorities.** Based on what you have learned, what are the issues that should receive the highest priority and attention in the next design phase of our work, and why? How are you going to link issues on the ground in this contested space to the unstable climate future of Minnesota? Which pieces of your work help make this connection strong and raise the profile of a new Arb Complex? Ditto. Synthesize.

- **Other Creative Ideas.** What other ideas do you have that could guide the next phase of our design work? What else do you need to know or learn to move to the design phase?
**Presentation Format and Expectations**

Each team will have 15 minutes total for their presentation. The presentation should last for 12 minutes, with 3 minutes more for questions (15 min total). Put your presentation in the Cloud or at Carleton somewhere so it can be easily and quickly access from our classroom computer.

Each team should prepare 8 slides, and each person should present 2 slides. Be sure to include a slide that outlines your area of research and the subareas explored. Include a final slide that lists some highlights from your synthetic question responses and the most important ideas or questions you wish to share with your peers that can guide our moving forward into the design phase. Feel free to be creative!

You need not, and should not, tell us about all that you learned. Your peers will have full access to the web site with all the details of your research in this phase. Focus on the most important parts that your think might guide our design of a new Arb Complex – and its connection to an unstable climate future on campus, in town, and in Minnesota.

Any questions? Just ask!