

Cryptids

You will research a cryptid, which is a monster that exists in folklore, urban legends, or other stories (such as Bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster, Mothman, etc.). You will propose a topic for this project, demonstrate that you've conducted research, and create a persuasive video in which you explain the primary features of your cryptid and argue (using research) whether your cryptid could be real or not.

This project is **optionally collaborative**. You can work in groups of 2-3 or individually. If you choose to work in a group, notify me of this by Friday, April 3.

Due Dates

All submissions are due via GeorgiaVIEW and the blog (<http://eng11102spring2020.wordpress.com>) by **7 PM** on the dates listed below.

- **Friday, April 3:** Topic proposal
- **Friday, April 10:** Annotated bibliography
- **Friday, April 17:** Draft script
- **Monday, April 20:** Practice recording
- **Friday, April 24:** Final recording and script

Required Elements, Topic Proposal

- **Purpose:** To identify and justify your choice of cryptid.
- **Content:** Answer the following questions in a bulleted or numbered list:
 - What cryptid will you research for this project?
 - If you're not familiar with cryptids, here's a few options (though this list doesn't cover all possible topics):
 - Bigfoot / Sasquatch
 - Yeti / The Abominable Snowman
 - The Loch Ness Monster
 - Mothman
 - Kraken
 - Why do you want to research this cryptid? Answer in **at least 5 sentences**.
 - What do you currently know about this cryptid, off the top of your head?
 - Identify **at least 3 outside sources** relating to cryptid.
 - Non-allowed sources: Wikipedia (or other wiki sites), dictionaries, Yahoo Answers, sources of questionable credibility, things I've assigned as class reading
 - Acknowledge your sources as **links**
- **GeorgiaVIEW Format Elements**
 - File name: Last Name, First Initial, Topic Proposal
 - File type: .doc or .docx
- **Blog Elements**
 - Paste your text into a blog post
 - **Category:** Topic Proposal AND the name of your section (e.g., MWF, 11 AM)
 - **Tags:** Please tag your post with **at least 3** tags. Tags are general keywords that describe the content of your post.
 - **Title:** Last Name, First Initial, Topic Proposal

Required Elements, Annotated Bibliography

- **Purpose:** To demonstrate your research process and summarize and analyze a variety of sources.
- **Content:** Your annotated bibliography will be an alphabetized list of MLA citations. Each citation will be accompanied by a paragraph that strictly follows the template described below.
 - **4 sources**, at least
 - **At least 1** source must be a **journal article or book chapter**
 - Use Galileo or databases such as EBSCOHost, Academic Search Complete, etc.
 - **Recent** – from the last 20 years (since 2000), ideally the last 10 years (since 2010)
 - If context is necessary and is available in an older source, run it by me for approval.
 - **Avoid** - Anything assigned for this class, unprofessional / casual blogs, textbooks you're using in other courses, Yahoo Answers, Quora, and Wikipedia
 - **MLA citation** for each source
 - https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html has MLA citation rules
 - **Annotation** for each source. Each annotation **must be a paragraph that contains (in this order):**
 - **1-2 sentences:** Identify the source's **main argument or thesis** (in your own words).
 - **Example:** In the assignment description for cryptids project (2020), Dr. Krafft asserts that annotated bibliographies are an important part of the research process.
 - **2-4 sentences:** Explain the source's **primary evidence** that supports its main argument.
 - **2-3 sentences:** Explain the source's **usefulness to your project**. That is, what did you learn from it that you could use when developing your video essay?
 - Each annotation must be **5-9 sentences**, no more, no less, and follow the template above.
 - Each annotation must be entirely in your own words – paraphrase and summarize without plagiarizing
- **MLA format**
 - 1 inch margins on all sides
 - Double spaced
 - Times New Roman, 12 pt font
 - Include appropriate header
 - This formatting only applies to the GeorgiaVIEW / Word document
- **GeorgiaVIEW Format Elements**
 - File name: Last Name, First Initial, Annotated Bibliography
 - File type: .doc or .docx
- **Blog Elements**
 - Paste your text into a blog post
 - **Category:** Annotated Bibliography AND the name of your section (e.g., MWF, 11 AM)
 - **Tags:** Please tag your post with **at least 3** tags. Tags are general keywords that describe the content of your post.
 - **Title:** Last Name, First Initial, Annotated Bibliography

Required Elements, Draft Script

- **Script** must be **100% complete** in terms of content
 - About **750-1050 words** (not counting parenthetical citation and works cited section)
 - You can adjust the script after this
- **GeorgiaVIEW Format Elements**
 - File name: Last Name, First Initial, Draft Script
 - .doc or .docx
- **Blog Elements**
 - Paste your script into a blog post
 - **Category:** Draft Script AND the name of your section (e.g., MWF, 11 AM)
 - **Tags:** Please tag your post with **at least 3** tags. Tags are general keywords that describe the content of your post.
 - **Title:** Last Name, First Initial, Draft Script

Required Elements, Practice Recording

- **Recording** must be **100% complete** in terms of content
 - **5-7 minutes** long
 - You can adjust your slides and content after this
- **GeorgiaVIEW Format Elements**
 - File name: Last Name, First Initial, Video, Final
 - YouTube URL
 - .mp4 or other common file type (that can open across platforms)
- **Blog Elements**
 - Embed your video recording
 - **Category:** Practice Recording AND the name of your section (e.g., MWF, 11 AM)
 - **Tags:** Please tag your post with **at least 3** tags. Tags are general keywords that describe the content of your post.
 - **Title:** Last Name, First Initial, Practice Recording

Required Elements, Final Recording and Script

- **Purpose:** To briefly describe your cryptid and persuade your audience of whether or not it exists (supported by research).
- **Content**
 - **5-7 minutes**
 - Average speaking page is 150 words / minute
 - **Provide context** for your cryptid
 - What is it?
 - What does it look like?
 - What are its origins?
 - **Persuade your audience** of whether your cryptid exists or not
 - Your stance should be informed by research
 - Use **at least 3 sources**
 - You cannot take a neutral stance
- **Slideshow (Recorded as Video)**
 - Design slides in PowerPoint, Google Slides, or Keynote
 - Use a screen recorder to add audio and turn the slides into a video (hosted on YouTube)
 - Image-focused
 - **At least 1 image** per slide
 - Minimal text
 - **Avoid** full sentences on slides
 - Font should be **easily legible** on both smartphones and laptops
 - Intentional color scheme and font choices
- **Script**
 - The presentation is timed, so you should prepare remarks that are identical to what you say in your presentation.
 - Provide **source attribution** in your script
 - **Parenthetical citations** indicating outside sources
 - **MLA works cited section**
- **GeorgiaVIEW Format Elements**
 - Script
 - File name: Last Name, First Initial, Script, Final
 - .doc or .docx
 - Recording
 - YouTube URL
 - .mp4 or other common file type (that can open across platforms)
 - File name: Last Name, First Initial, Video, Final
- **Blog Elements**
 - Paste your script into a blog post
 - Embed your video recording
 - **Category:** Cryptid Final AND the name of your section (e.g., MWF, 11 AM)
 - **Tags:** Please tag your post with **at least 3** tags. Tags are general keywords that describe the content of your post.
 - **Title:** Last Name, First Initial, Final Recording and Script

Relevant Readings, Software, and Hardware

- Hardware
 - Smartphone – Use to record and edit video
 - Laptop or desktop computer – Use to record and edit video
- [OWL Purdue](#) – Guidance on MLA style
- Video recording / simple editing (desktop / laptop)
 - [Screencast-o-matic](#)
 - 15 minute limit to screencasts on the free plan
 - Upload videos for free to YouTube
 - Also available as a smartphone app
 - Microsoft PowerPoint
 - [Record a slideshow with timing and narration](#)
 - [Turn your presentation into a video](#)
 - [OBS \(Open Broadcaster Software\)](#)
 - Open source and free software for video recording and live streaming
- Screen recording (smartphone)
 - iPhone > Settings > Control Center > Customize Controls > Screen recording
 - Android > Top menu > screen recorder
- [How to Upload Videos to YouTube](#)
- Video editing software (laptop / desktop)
 - [iMovie](#) – Mac users only
 - [Lightworks](#) – 7 day license, register to extend
 - [Hit Film Express](#) – requires a shout-out on Twitter or Facebook and account creation

Points Breakdown

The cryptid project is worth **300 points (30%** of your final grade in the course). The grade breakdown is below.

Points	Requirement
50	Topic proposal: Thoroughly answers all required questions and provides justification for cryptid choice.
50	Annotated bibliography: Follows MLA style, completes annotation template for each entry, and provides expected number of appropriate sources.
50	Draft script: Demonstrates progress toward completion of the final progress and contains all required elements.
50	Practice recording: Demonstrates progress toward completion of the final progress and contains all required elements.
100	Final recording and script: Recording is carefully planned and edited, making use of available digital technologies. Makes a well-organized and thoughtful argument relating to a cryptid. Demonstrates clear research and understanding of the material.

Lateness Policy

Late topic proposals, annotated bibliographies, draft scripts, and practice recordings will receive a maximum possible grade of **C (75%)**. I will not accept any of these assignments more than 1 week late.

I will reduce the grade for your final recording and script by **10% for each day that it is late** (including weekends). The latest this project can be is Monday, April 27, as that is the last day of class.