

Humorist Study and Project Proposal

Right now!: Create a new Google Doc titled *YourN-Humor Project Proposal* and share it with english@freestyleacademy.rocks

Please label the two parts of the assignment, and follow all instructions below.

Overview:

Your humor proposal contains two essential parts: 1.) a 2-page study of two humorists of your choice; 2.) a description of your project for teacher approval. The purpose of combining your Humorist Study with your Proposal is to show that you have found inspirations and models for the kind of Humor Project you want to create.

Part 1 – The Humorist Study (2 pages, single-spaced)

An important cornerstone of your Humor project is the study of two professional humorists who have done work that inspires you to make comedy of your own. I encourage you to read/view/listen to multiple works by each humorist, but I suggest you pick one piece per humorist to compare in the sections below.

Parts:

- **Analysis:** In the first single-spaced page, compare and contrast their subject matter, themes and styles, using terms from the [Comedy Toolbox](#). Focus your analysis on showing how at least one piece of comedy from each humorist works, and explain how and why they are similar/different.
- **Reflection:** Then, in another 1-page, single-spaced page, reflect on which subjects/themes and techniques you find most inspirational and valuable in considering *your own* project.

Considerations:

- You may opt to include outside research to supplement each of these sections, especially if you are interested in connecting which comedians influenced their work or criticism/reviews. However, outside research is not required.
- You will need to include a Works Cited for all sources used in your study section.
- *The Humorist Study is worth 75% of the grade for this assignment, while the Proposal below is worth the remaining 25%.*
- Heads up: You are required to explain at the end of your Humor Project performance/recording your comedic influences, which is also where this assignment comes in handy!

Kate McKinnon & Pete Davidson

Part 2 – Description of Proposed Project

Provide a detailed description of your project, including what you intend to develop (the form of humor, topic/content, techniques you plan to use, how many people you'll need to deliver the performance, visual aids/props, time, and any other details that will help to give me a picture of what you're planning to create. *This section is worth 25% of the grade for this assignment.*

1.) Are you collaborating with others? Yes* or No

**If Yes, list the names of your collaborators :*

No.

2.) Which form of humor are you planning to develop? (See [menu](#).) **Note: due to our current shelter-in-place, all projects will be recorded and shared this year.**

Comedic Narrative sketch. SNL-like skit of my dad sitting my sister and I down and telling us about the pandemic.

3.) What is the subject (or, in the case of satire, the target)? Why did you choose this subject?

The subject is the Federal (and some state) government's response to the Coronavirus outbreak. I chose this subject because everytime I watch the news cover the current administration, I feel like I am watching a comedy show. I am also super invested in politics so I thought that this would be an easier subject for me to cover. My favorite satire always seems to involve the government one way or another.

4.) Which comedic [tools/techniques](#) do you plan to use, and why? (List at least 3 main ones and explain briefly how you plan to use them):

Irony: In writing and speaking, irony is using words to express something completely different from the literal meaning. There are several forms of irony: *Verbal irony (such as sarcasm)* is a disparity of expression and intention: when a speaker says one thing but means another

Satire: wit that is critical humor. Satire is sarcasm that makes fun of something.

Understatement: stating something in restrained terms, or as less than it is.

5.) Why do you think this is the right humor project for you? (If you have a group, can you assure me that everyone is invested in this idea and you won't have trouble getting everyone to contribute meaningfully?) What makes you excited about this idea? What are some potential pitfalls you wish to avoid?

I definitely have been dreading this unit because I really don't consider myself funny so I chose something that I felt comfortable with. I also really love SNL and their political skits so I do feel somewhat excited to try one myself.

6.) If you get approval, what's your next step?

I think my next step would be to research exactly what I want to talk about and start adding / practicing applying the comedic tools to each topic. Definitely watch different news outlets to try and find the best people / reports to make fun of.