This assignment comes in two parts:

**First:** I ask you to conceive, design, write, draw, cut and paste, staple or stitch—in a word, ***make***—your own **zine**. Your **zine** can be about **anything**. The only requirement is that your **zine** should reflect some hobby, pastime, interest, cause—some enthusiasm you have, or some activity you care about and enjoy doing. Maybe you are a vintage movie buff, or an avid sports fan; a budding social activist, or a music aficionado and you want to share that passion in a **per-zine**; perhaps you love love love the work of a particular artist, or are a video game devotee and want to make a **fan-zine**. If you’d like, you can even indulge that honorable tradition of **zine** quirkiness (“I’m a passionate devotee of psychedelic Cambodian surf rock!”). As I indicated, your **zine** can be about **anything!!!**

Your **zines** should be **at least 8 pages** in length (this *includes* the front and back covers), and should include a **substantial amount** of written text. They should also include visual depictions (drawings, pasted images, photos, doodles, decorations, cartoons, puzzles, web-site links, *et cetera*).

You will, of course, have to decide what to include, and you will likewise have to decide upon, as well, such things as layout,font choices, design, colors, kind of paper, cover art — all the things that will give your **zine** its distinct “look and feel.”

**The second part** of your project will be an accompanying paper **(!!!)** wherein you discuss the reasoning behind the decisions you made in putting together your **zine**. Thus, you might explain why you chose the topic you did. You might address the kind of ideal reader you imagine for your zine. Or what you meant by your choice of images. Or the relationship, if any, between particular images and the words that accompany them. Or where in your **zine** you think you were most creative. Or what you would change if you could revise your **zine**, and so on. Basically, the written portion of your project will allow you to explain the rationale for the many decisions you made about your **zine**.

*However* *(!)*, this paper is not meant to be a synopsis or reproduction of the content of your **zine** – it is supposed to explain your methodology, and the rhetorical choices you made in this particular rhetorical situation.

Your rationale should be **3-4 pages in length**, and the audience for your **zines** is your classmates *and* at least one unknown stranger “out there” whom you imagine as your ideal reader. The audience for your accompanying written paper is your instructor.

\*In the tradition of zine making, you would typically make your original zine, then photocopy it for others, then leave it in strategic locations for others to pick up and read: the library, a bus stop, a table, a concert venue, a music store, etc. (This practice, by the way, is called “shopdropping”). Though doing this isn’t a requirement, I hope at least some of you honor that tradition!

**GRADING CRITERIA**\*\*

***Your* zine – *65%*\***

1) Did you submit your project in a pocket folder that included both your zine and its accompanying rationale on **Wednesday, September 24th**?

2) Was your zine turned in on time? Did you participate in the Rough Draft Workshop on **Monday, September 22nd**?

2) Have you given your zine a title, and does your zine include, at a minimum, both words and images? Does your zine have one theme — an angle, a gist, something that you care about? And does your zine maybe have “a little attitude” too?

3) Have you made your zine with an ideal reader in mind, but also with your instructor (Rob) in mind too?

4) Is your zine **8 pages in length**, and does it include **a substantial amount of written text**?

***Your Paper – 35%\****

5)Was your rationale paper turned in with your zine on time, and in a pocket folder?

6) Did you explain how you decided upon your chosen theme or topic?

7) Did you give some indication of how you imagined the person or persons who would constitute your ideal reader(s)?

8) Did you discuss, at some point, your choice of certain images, as well as what you wanted your words to express, or the tone you desired?

9) Did you explain your thinking behind (at least) one example of the text-image relationship in your zine?

10) Did you discuss other decisions you made in putting your zine together—layout, format, design, etc.

11) Did you write your rationale paper to me, and is your rationale **3-4 double-spaced pages in length**?

12) Did you reflect upon the kind of writing that appears in your zine and the kind of writing that appears in this paper?

*\*Though I have separated these above,* *you will receive one grade for the entire project.*

*\*\* The 50-50 split of zine and paper “value” is open to negotiations – if your class would prefer I grade different portions at different values, you may, negotiate, vote, and come to a consensus with a two-thirds majority.*