	35%	Dec 9
Personal Website		

<u>Discussion Board Posts and WIki entries (10%)</u>
This is where we have regular weekly conversations in the course for 10 weeks. Details on posting requirements are given on the next pages.

Instructions will be provided.

<u>Wikipedia Edits, Activities, and Article Contribution (25%) Final version due Nov 29 (flexible to the last day of the term, though this date should be a target for you to space out the workload)</u>
For several weeks during the term you will be editing and contributing to Wikipedia. Yes, really. This will involve making 1) small edits to existing articles (5%), evaluating an existing Wikipedia article (5%),

entry (5%) and completing your final article (10%). Ultimately, you will be either creating a new article or making substantial contributions to an existing entry in Wikipedia. Details will be provided.

<u>Hypertext essay (30%) Due Oct 18.</u> You have two options for this
assignment:

1)   Essay: Write an essay (with intro, thesis, body, conclusion) on any topic **with a clear connection to the readings and content of the course** and smoothly incorporate hyperlinks to appropriate online content (examples, visuals, articles, etc.). The subject must be in some way related to writing and/or reading (communication) on the Web. Research your subject, provide new insights, explanations, or

Length will be approximately 4 double-spaced pages (1000 words), though this is a rough guideline. See **Assignments** for detailed instructions.

2)   Online article: Write a blog-style article on any topic you want, incorporating hyperlinks and emulating the style of online blogs as discussed in the course requirements.

<u>Website Development (35%) Due Dec 9</u>
Select a topic of interest to develop a website using software such as Dreamweaver or by using a premade template from a site like Wordpress, Webnode, Wix or Weebly (not Tumblr unless you create multiple pages and customize the template a lot!). If you use a pre-made template, you must sufficiently customize it to make it yours.

Add content to that site   you must have at least 5 pages/subpages (see **Assignments** for details).
 If not using a template site, you can use the free space allocated to you at Western to post your site (see instructions in **Course Information**), host it elsewhere. Very few if any students have taken this route in the past few years; most people use a template site already online. If you are using a Wordpress, Webnode or Wix site, hosting is provided already. You just make it live on the web.

 Your essay is to be typed and double-spaced and submitted as .doc, .docx, or .rtf format. If you submit a .pdf file to retain formatting, also submit a second version in a format that I can edit with comments. Do not use a cover page, as these are particularly unnecessary for online submissions. When using sources in a paper, you will be expected to follow MLA, APA, or Chicago-style citations.

 Assignments are due on the dates specified on the schedule. Late essays will be penalized by **3% per day** unless I have permitted an extension on the due date. You must speak to me ahead of time for an extension and provide a suitable reason. Weekly class sessions will run from Monday to Sunday, so writing assignments for a particular week are due by Sunday night at 11:59PM,

be any penalty. All this is designed to help last-minute, weekend editors.

You must also submit your final draft of the hyperlink essay/online article to Turnitin.com for plagiarism checking. This happens automatically when you submit it to the **Assignments** area. Turnitin will generate a report for you, detailing the percentage of your paper that has been taken from sources, which I will also look at. I will not grade any essay until I see the report on Turnitin.com.

You are responsible for keeping copies of all assignments submitted in case we need to discuss your writing and if you want to submit it for the annual Marie Smibert Writing Program Student Achievement Prizes in April.

Obviously, we do not meet formally in a Distance Studies course. Therefore, attendance and participation on the Discussion Board (and in our case, Wiki) are intertwined. While online classes are generally asynchronous, they are not correspondence or self-paced. You must attend class (defined as logging into our OWL section and interacting, posting questions and thoughts) **at least once by Thursday** for a total of **two** (or more) separate posts per week (a week is defined as running from Monday to Sunday). **At least one post must be a reply/response to another student and at least one must respond to the main discussion question.** I will assign a weekly number grade from 0-10 based on whether you have fulfilled the posting requirements described in further detail below   1) **quality of posting**, 2) **engagement** (frequency and number of posts made).

1) Quality of Posting
All posts on the Discussion Board must

Contribute something meaningful to the board.
Support your opinion with sufficient reasons or evidence.
Display good grammar and organization.

Postings should not

Contain disrespectful, insulting, or offensive languaf1enreW*np502 0eop0 0 1 215.86 487.1 Tm0 g0 G90B2}TJ//2

should discuss it with your academic advisor in your home faculty, who may require documentation.

Medical Accommodation Policy

Note: the official Western Accommodation Policy appears below. This is in effect but may be modified temporarily by the university during the academic year as conditions change.

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth

Pleas
Briefly, remember that I do not have the discretion to initiate, consider, and grant (or deny) such
r home faculty