**Final Project: Video Essay**

**Directions:**

For this assignment, you should consider how the ideas from Nussbaum’s book *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities* might relate to an issue facing a community that you are connected to as you answer this question:

**Does democracy need the humanities? If so, why? If not, why not?**

You have a lot of freedom to address this question based on your own experience, but be prepared to provide CONCRETE examples to support your position.

**Requirements:**

* Your response should be in the form of a VIDEO 4-5 minutes in length. We will discuss how to use Jaycut.com together in class, but you are free to use any other program that you might have access to.
* Try to use the visual and audio modes to communicate ideas that would not be possible with text alone. Think about our discussions of *Persepolis* and the way images work in conjunction with other image and/or with text to communicate ideas.
* Limit individual clips to no more than 30 seconds. Five minutes of the same person speaking or the same still image are not ideal ways to persuade your audience.
* Avoid copyrighted material. Create your own photo, video, and audio files wherever possible.
* Reflection paper: 2-3 pages explaining the rhetorical choices you made as you developed this project. Who is your audience for this project? Why did you chose particular images or sounds? How have you “layered” your video to include more than one mode at a time? What would you have LIKED to do with this project that you were unable to? How have all of these choices impacted the message you were trying to send to your audience?

We will spend some time during class developing questions for research, interviewing techniques, and storyboarding.