Final Project Guidelines

For your final project, you will write an essay of 2000-2500 words, thoughtfully integrated with collected multimedia. You will author this essay in Scalar, a versatile, free, open-source publishing platform that allows for the creation of long-form, born-digital scholarship. As for the topic, that’s (mostly) up to you! Among the issues and repertoire we’ve discussed this semester, what stood out to you as particularly interesting? What seemed problematic? Were certain issues overlooked? Whose perspectives seem to be missing? Think creatively about what your contribution to the new study of Chinese popular musics might be—the field is wide open!

In order to receive a passing grade:

• Your essay must advance an original argument, which should be presented somewhere in the first or second paragraph
• Your essay must be checked thoroughly for correct spelling and grammar
• Your essay must include no less than 3 audiovisual examples, 3 annotations of said examples, and 3 links to relevant outside literature
• You must include a complete and properly formatted bibliography

An “A” paper will have the following additional qualities:

• A thoughtful and compelling thesis statement
• A clear and intuitive organizational structure
• Well-crafted topic sentences
• Ample references to supporting literature, music, and videos, both from our syllabus and from your own research

Please provide me with the name of the writing tutor with whom you worked and the time/date of your appointment so that I can verify your attendance.

Finally, please prepare a 10-15 minute oral presentation, to be delivered on the final day of class. Your presentation should introduce us to your essay’s main questions, themes, and arguments, and should include a demonstration of how you brought these to life in Scalar.