

Product Progress Assessment

Based on what I've completed so far, I think that my Final Product has been going well. In reality it seems like nothing in ISM ever goes exactly like I think it will, so there have definitely been some setbacks along the way, but I think that through continuing my hard work, I should be able to complete the time requirement for sure and hopefully with a project I'm proud of. One concern that I often have in ISM is if I'm "doing enough". For example, in my head it seems like I commit so much time and effort to learning about (in this case) property taxes and different branches of city government, but then all I have to show for it is extensive reading and research and it makes me feel like I haven't exactly done enough. In that way, I really want to complete my project ahead of schedule with the video, but then I'm afraid I'll be left wondering if it was enough. I think moving forward I need to keep in mind that I've put a lot into the project, and even if it's mainly a product of what I've internally learned, that doesn't invalidate all that I've gotten out of it.

On that note, I've done a lot since getting back in the past couple of weeks to the rhythm of school. I've had two interviews recently with Nell Lange from the City Manager's office and John Classe from the Frisco ISD School Board of Trustees, and hope to have a few more. Being able to break the routine of mentor visits has been really nice, not because I don't love speaking to my mentors, but because hearing these different perspectives in the context of local legislation has been fascinating. Unlike what I thought would happen in my calendar, I haven't been recording the conversations that I have. Originally my plan was to include quote bits, and in some way I'd still like to, but my priority now is a project more based on the research I've personally done with some aspect of putting in professional quotes as an auxiliary.

Another thing I'd like to change moving forward is trying to get more concrete feedback from my mentors. As in the past I feel like sometimes I don't always ask questions immediately, but recognizing the value of the mentorship is something I definitely shouldn't take for granted in these final two months. I want to make a real effort to reach out and ask what they think even as I continue to go to more unrelated observational mentor visits.

Hopefully as I finish up in the coming month I'll be able to create the written out component of my video, start recording parts of it, and within the next week or two have the solidified copy of my

text for the video. Unfortunately this is a component I wish I was a little farther along in, but at least the time I haven't spent working on that specifically I've filled with more research. Hopefully the video will be high-quality and informative and we'll see after I draft the audio text how long the final product will come out to be.

Final Product Log

Date	Hours	Description of Work
1/27/19	0.5	Began drafting ideas for my Final Product by myself before having a mentor visit to discuss the next day.
1/28/19	1	Spoke with Will and Shona about how I could integrate the work I've already done with local control into my Final Product.
1/28/19	1.5	Wrote my Final Product Proposal after finalizing my basic ideas with my mentors.
1/31/19	0.5	At the Conservative Coalition meeting, I took notes on how Shona expressed the idea of local control to the voters in Frisco in relation to the property tax vote.
2/10/19	0.5	Read and discussed the comments on my Final Product Proposal with my mentors.
2/11/19	1	Made changes to my Final Product Proposal and Calendar to be turned in after my mentors' comments.
2/12/19	1	Researched the origins of local control and the current property tax legislation in Texas.
2/14/19	0.5	Continued research on the property tax bill in Texas.
3/4/19	1	Worked with my mentors to discuss other people I could work with and questions on my project.
3/16/19	2	Researched the current local control legislation in the state.
3/17/19	1	Brainstormed different video formats and looked at assorted

		examples for more ideas.
3/19/19	1.5	Researched school finance specifically in Texas and in Frisco.
3/20/19	0.5	Interviewed John Classe of the FISD Board of Trustees.
3/21/18	0.75	Interviewed Nell Lange of the Frisco City Manager's office.

Total: 13.25 hours

Weekly Calendar

- **Week 1:** Put final preparations on the Proposal and work with mentors to finalize the project vision
- **Week 2:** Begin research local control, honing in on a few subjects I think are most relevant to flesh out for future interviews and the video-- research the history of local control as well when it's best implemented into governments
- **Week 3:** Continue my research on local control, focusing on current legislation and how it impacts Frisco, so I can make my understanding of local control as specific to the people I'll be speaking to as possible-- research how politicians use the vernacular of situations to push ahead their agenda
- **Week 4:** Plan out the interviews coming up in the next few weeks and make sure I have pointed questions for each person
- **Week 5:** Continue research outside of just the property tax aspect in the city, but also possibly school finance and other city results
- **Week 6:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (potentially someone on the "other side" of local control in state government)
- **Week 7:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (potentially someone in local government outside of Frisco for another viewpoint)
- **Week 8:** Interview someone related to the subject of local control (anyone else I have the opportunity-- school board, other representatives of departments, etc.)
- **Week 9:** Begin formatting the video and editing together the clips that I have. Make any research sections and design those in this week-- write the text of the video in these weeks before and after specifically
- **Week 10:** Put all the separate sections into the video itself
- **Week 11:** Finish editing and putting together my informational video, sending it to my mentors to request any editing or changes that should be made
- **Week 12:** Make any revisions necessary as a result of speaking with my mentors and getting their feedback

- **Week 13:** Plan my Final Presentation Night speech, making any changes needed to my Product to fit with the presentation
- **Week 14:** Leave this week for final touches and polishing of the entire project

Research

How the Initiative Culture Broke California

<http://content.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1968141,00.html>

California Initiative Process is Out of Control

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/diaz/article/California-initiative-process-is-out-of-control-13213651.php>

Property Cap video I've used somewhat as a guide and inspiration

<https://vimeo.com/305514478>

Where Americans Pay Least and Most Taxes:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/taxes/2018/02/20/states-where-americans-pay-least-and-most-taxes/350963002/>

Texas House Panel Advances School Finance Bill but Removes Merit Pay Provision

<https://www.texastribune.org/2019/03/19/texas-house-panel-advances-school-finance-bill-removes-merit-pay/>

Collin County Among Few Counties in support of Proposed Property Tax Revenue Cap

<https://communityimpact.com/dallas-fort-worth/city-county/2019/02/09/collin-county-among-few-counties-for-property-tax-reform/>

Want Lower Property Taxes? Here's how your bill could change under Texas lawmakers' proposals

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/texas-legislature/2019/03/17/want-lower-property-taxes-bill-could-change-texas-lawmakers-proposals>