

This is supplementary material for Jenn Stewart, Emily Thompson, Anna N. McDonald, and Andrea Schurr's webtext, "Developing Symbiotic Institutional Partnerships: An FYC and Library Collaboration to Increase Multimodal Instruction," published in *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*, 28(2), available at <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/28.2/praxis/stewart-et-al/index.html>

What Is Multimodal?

Sheena Monds:

Yeah, in my courses in terms of practical ways that translates into assignments, is we tend to focus a lot on film primarily because I tend to see multimodal learning as allowing students to pull from different modes of communication. Often when I explain that concept to the students I talk to them about really even the origins of the word "text" and the kind of weaving together of different modes of communication to create meaning. And so, for me, the film projects or the film assignments allow students to kind of understand that concept and execute that concept in a way that I think translates for them.

Krista McKay:

I use a pretty broad definition of more than one mode of communication. The way I present it to my students is we talk about all the different modes that are available. Visual, text, audio, motion, color, design all of those concepts.

Tiffany Mitchell:

Because students are so unfamiliar with that term, I just break it down for them that you know, a paper text is one mode. An image is another mode. Audio is another mode. And, if we put those together, or one or two of those together, or two or three of those together, then you have multimodal. So I start, I always try to make the connections like I was just talking about with 1010 to 1020, I always try to make the connections of the knowledge that they should have with this new knowledge that I'm trying to get them to understand. And so, you know, when you say multimodal people kind of freeze and balk, and I was like yeah but if you're watching a movie that's multimodal. That's visual and it's audio. Or, if you're—you know I love to watch TV with captions. So, I'm like if you, if you're a person who likes captions that's three. You've got audio, you've got visual, and you have captions that you're reading the text. I try to approach it from that perspective and also try to get them to consider when they are looking at sources themselves, they are seeing multimodal images.