

C&T 6505
Spring 2005
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Key Questions for Documentation

What is the focus of documentation?

Why is it important?

Who is your audience? (To whom is the issue important?)

What is the unit of analysis?

What period of time will be addressed (a day, week, class, unit, project, course etc.) ?

Why?? What's the ideal? What's really manageable?

What are the key elements of the issue or time period being addressed? How can they be documented?

Don't overdo it (particularly with video);

Document the beginning, middle and end;

Collect relevant materials;

Do pre- and post- interviews;

Seek out alternative viewpoints;

Provide contrasting cases.

Supplement succinct presentations and analyses of data with archives of "raw" materials.

What's the context?

What's the context of the class? (collect syllabi, assignments, etc.)

What's the context of the school?

What's the context of the community?

Who are the students?

(Demographics, etc.)

What's the background of the participants? (History in the context, beliefs, goals, aspirations etc.)

What happened before? What happened afterward?