

DSGN 4020 Design Studio 5: Collaborative Projects – Project 1 Guide

Here are some questions to get your group started on the *Local Communities, Local Issues* project.

Group Organization and Getting Started

- What is everyone most interested in working on?
- How can we include everyone's strengths and skills?
- When would be a good time to meet as a group outside of class?

Outlining the Design Brief

Think of the Design Brief as a series of guidelines to keep your project on track throughout the design process. It should consist of a one-page written description outlining the project, including objectives (what is to be done) and strategies (what each person will work on). Point form is fine, as long as there is sufficient detail.

- What is the problem or issue we will address?
- As designers, how can we contribute?
- What requirements should the design satisfy?
- How can we satisfy these requirements in a unique way?
- What form should the project take?
- Who is the target audience?
- What will each person in the group work on?

Preliminary Research

- Are there people who we could talk to about the project?
- Are there sites we could visit to gather information?
- What are some existing strategies or solutions for this problem?

Having gone through these questions, your group should be in a good position to finalize your Design Brief. Afterwards, start sketching concepts as you continue to research and brainstorm as a group. Remember to document your working process!