



Co-design Workshop
Bronx Academy of Letters

DLR Assignment

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Workshop Theory

Political engagement
Building trust

We're starting a new country ...

How do we establish trust in this system? (on an individual level)

ENGAGEMENT

How do we make ppl feel like their vote matters?

How? 10-18 Do not erase!!!

PLEASE DO NOT ERASE

- Subgroups of 5-6 ppl - different themes?
- 3 min presentation time/group (elevator pitch)
- Division of tasks in our group
- Quick ice breaker to enter the topic
- Introduction - how do we make it fun?
- Creative workshop - illustration? object?

Context

Seeding ideas

ideation

Capture the vision

Symbols

→ why these?

concepts

What do we want US & participants walk away with?

OBJECTIVE?

Research?

Design?

How create political engagement in this new country?

media

governance system

etc.

decision making process

why important?

What motivates someone?

cards against humanity

Principles upon which the country is founded?

FLAG

Can we tie this back to US?

8-8-8



THE URBAN ASSEMBLY
BRONX ACADEMY OF LETTERS

26 students

50 min period time

Conducted during “Participation in Government”
class

Mixture of Juniors and Seniors (ages 16-18)



Workshop Structure

- Class divided in **5 groups**
- General introduction** for all the class
- Different **activities per group**
- Presentation** of findings
- Documentation** of process



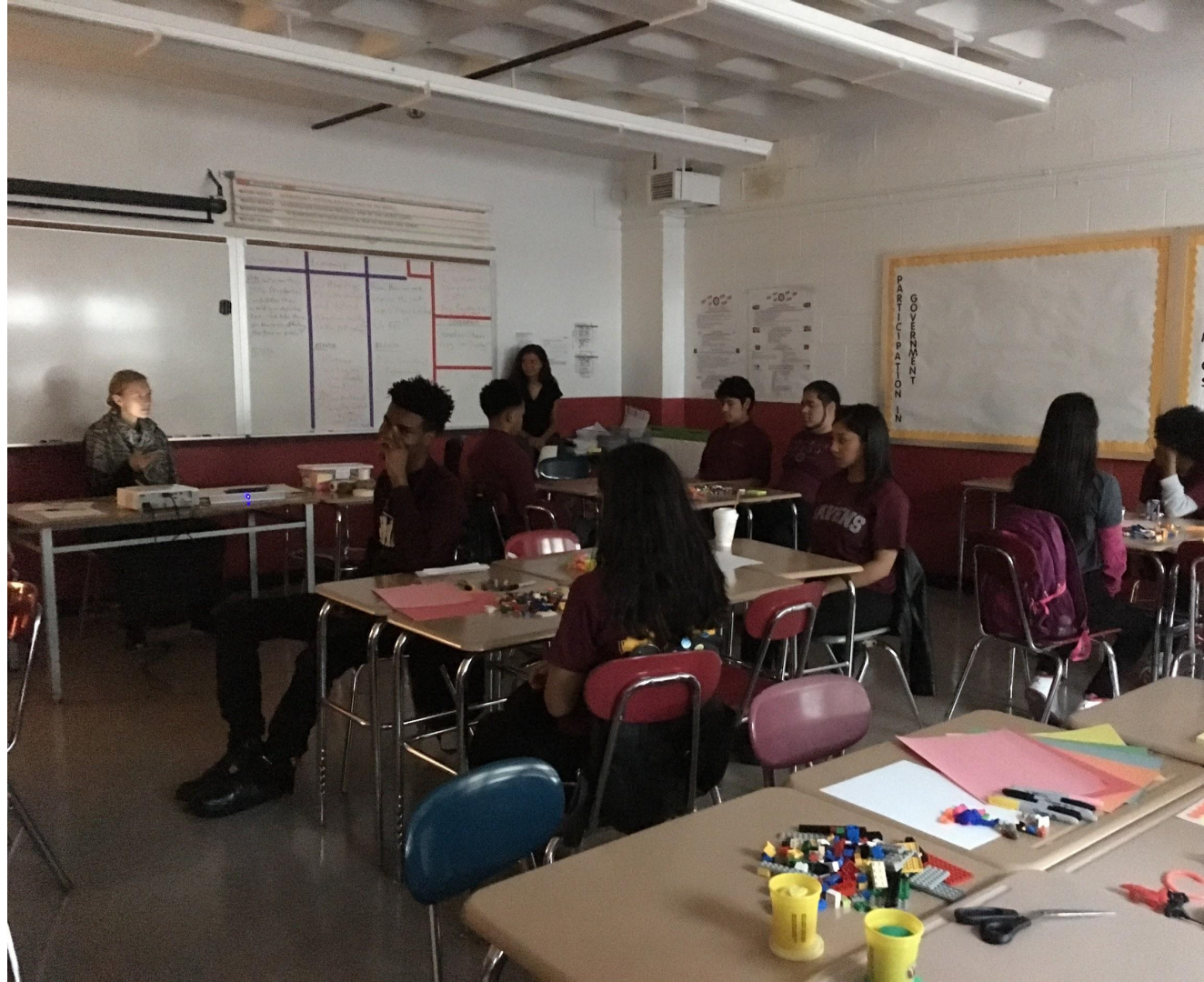
Context & narrative

7 min

Introducing the United States of Nowhere

Meditation and narrative leading into first part of the assignment.

Establishing a scene: a fallen city and a fallen society with no corporations, no government, no media, no money, no police, no law and no order...



Letter writing

3 min

Writing a letter addressing the entire surviving community

How do we rebuild a human community? How do we establish leadership and create trust in each other?

Include three keywords/guiding principles

Christian Lee Rivera

10/24/16

Dear survivors,

I know about the situation that you are going through. Your society is destroyed, shattered, and in ruins. In order to rebuild that community, we have to establish new leaders, gather them, and put whoever is committed to run a country in power. We must regrow the trees that give us life, and let the animals give birth to their ~~offspring~~ again. Our community has to be structured, and include a system of government that is not strict. A democracy. We need biodiversity.

- Organized
- Responsibility
- United
- Supportative
- **Understanding**

Values - respect, dignity
Sympathy
patience
Organization
A voice - A representative for that group

In order to build your own city, I feel like respect, leadership, ~~organization~~, stability.

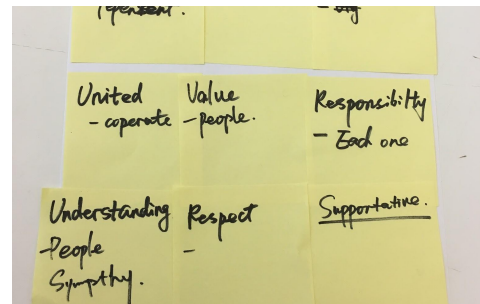
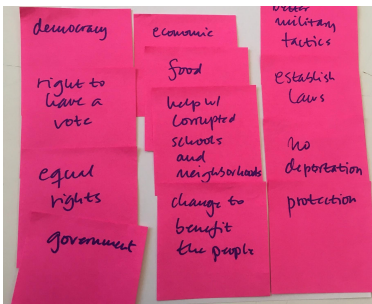
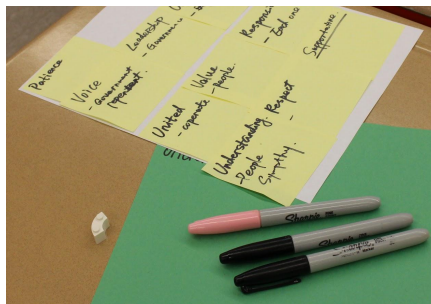


Theme clustering

10 min

Sharing of letters and identification of broader themes

Team members read their letter or keywords. Shared themes were identified and priority themes selected.



Exploring outcomes

15 min

Process: Creating a representation of their new system based on themes

Materials provided included:
Lego, Paper, Tape, Sharpies,
Play Doh, Balloons

Students encourage to create either tangible or intangible representations





Exploring outcomes

90 seconds per team

Outcome: Presenting political system representation to broader group





Workshop video



INSIGHTS ON PROCESS

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE WORKSHOP

Meditation introduction

was a good start for engagement with the activity.

Good collaboration

with the teacher.

Opportunity to be with

students of a class

called “Participation in

Government”

Planning time frame is

important to make the activity work better.

Having thought multiple **options of creative activities**

in case lack of inspiration.

Having planned in advance

the **roles of each teammate.**

INSIGHTS ON PROCESS

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE WORKSHOP

We felt students
were engaged.

The activity encouraged
group participation.

The activity left space
for people to express
themselves openly.

Diversity of materials
can inspire different kind
of outcomes.

Incorporating different
types of methodologies
in the process.

INSIGHTS ON PROCESS

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

More time than 50 min
would have been ideal.

Some students came late
so they missed the
introduction and context
(and it was more difficult for
them to enter the activity).

Some students may
need different
instructions for the
assignment.

Manage how to set
(low) expectations on
creativity processes
(to reduce pressure and
inhibition to creative thinking).

Be aware and solve for
different personality types
more effectively.

We have to frame the
activity limited on the
classroom context.

THEMES EXPLORED

