



Open
College
of the Arts

Formative feedback

Student name	Simon Chirgwin	Student number	512973
Course/Unit	PH5LPE	Assignment number	4
Type of tutorial	Written / Audio-Visual		A/V

Overall Comments

The essay showed good objectivity while exploring an interesting and topical concept. Research was wide-ranging yet concisely summarized.

Feedback on assignment

Tutor's additional notes and suggestions in red

The essay was well written and researched. It is topical and reflects the 'now' of lockdowns **and idea of** being able to get everything on a screen. There are many good things in it - particularly around the transience of GSV.

However, the statement at the opening was not carried on through the remainder of the essay: I could (should?) have kept coming back to use each example to examine the limitations of using pictures sourced from street view (or indeed anywhere else on the internet, if I have no experience of the place shown), **or summarised the shortcomings of online over reality in a conclusion. The research question you pose as the subject of the essay (and in the title) needs to be addressed throughout. Is that journey necessary? What does the photographer on the ground add? How might you term the differences between my shots there and yours and GSV's. If they are different then that's what is missing (or gained) by GSV.**

Could what is lost could be characterised as 'Mood' and 'Atmosphere' - the sights, the smells, the people? **I was thinking here of the motives to choosing a shot: where to place the camera, where to point it, when to release the shutter, what exposure to choose, which focusing point, how much DOF... Sounds, smells, encounters, lighting (as you quoted by Shore) etc. all affect when and where we decide to take an interest, to linger and then shoot.**

The evidence is all there, but needs referencing back to the original question: how does it relate back to GSV and its limitations.

As it is, the structure does not allow readers to fully grasp the 'Why?' of what is going on to the extent that all aspects are apparent...

There was a lot more of that sort of thing in the earlier drafts, before the word count was reduced to fit within the assignment parameters. I admitted - for example - that this was the main reason for using the acronym GSV rather than the fuller Google Street View.)

I had picked out a lot of this during my 'reflection' post. The essay is good enough to deserve an extra bit of work - another draft or even just a conclusion to pull it all back together - before it is put in for assessment. (Most likely in November, now that I've been given a two-month extension to complete both the module and level 2; assignment 5 will now be completed by the end of April with Assignment 6 - the getting-things-ready-for-assessment one being ready a month later.)

We also talked about how useful it was to be able to check places out visually on GSV, particularly if you need visual pointers to make directions 'real' or just to do some location scouting...

It was also fun to be able to play around during the tutorial with the - unknown to DT - feature of GSV that allows you to time travel back through earlier passes of the Google Camera Car! We spent some time virtually tracking through the streets around where I live in Walthamstow (and original home in Kirkwall), the area that is likely to feature heavily in my self-directed project for Assignment 5. **So GSV can become a research tool of historic information; in fact it is always in the past when compared to the viewing experience**

Herwig's book could be more than 'serious photographic', as Meades is a commentator/critic on architecture., so the book has gravitas beyond the photographic.

Suggested reading/viewing

I suggest you look at the work of Mishka Henner. He uses/appropriates satellite images of the earth to rework both digitally and as installations in galleries. He has also (controversially) used Google street view to document prostitution in Italy (No Man's Land): See <http://www.mishkahenner.com/>

Or more generally around projects to 'curate' found images from GSV

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/gallery/2012/jul/15/photography-google-street-view>

<https://medium.com/@ACPFest/street-view-photography-from-doug-rickard-through-jacqui-kenny-5eb9b7a42df9>

and

<https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-agoraphobic-photographer-google-street-view-travel>

Tutor name	Derek Trillo
Date	28/02/2022
Next assignment due	11/05/2022 (provisional)