Roadside America Podcast

Profile one US state by writing and recording a podcast featuring some of its oddities, unusual events, roadside attractions, or notable roadways. Your final project will include the following parts:

The Podcast: a 3-5 minute MP3 recording, delivered to me via email or flash drive	The written text of the podcast's script – submitted in hard copy
A "Works Cited" list that includes the sources of information, and a COMPLETE list of any music, sound effects, or other sound files which were incorporated into the broadcast. Attach to the script.	A short (1-2 page) reflection about the assignment. Attach to the script.

Research your assigned state. Try to find the most bizarre, unusual, memorable or strange (true) things to include in your profile. Keep track of where you get your information. Then write a script for the podcast – about 2 double-spaced pages.

How to make a podcast

You'll need your finished script (1 double-spaced page takes about 2 minutes to read out loud)

Download the free software called "Audacity" from audacity.sourceforge.net

Check out any of the free tutorials I've linked to the course blog under the Podcasting category to learn the basics about how to use Audacity. Record your script using your laptop's microphone or borrow a microphone to use. If you get really stuck on this step, come visit me during office hours with laptop in hand, so we can troubleshoot. Save your project as an Audacity file.

To add color to your podcast, use music or sound effects by adding additional tracks in your saved Audacity file. They CANNOT be copyrighted material. **If you use copyrighted material, your project will get a zero.** One great source of free, downloadable material with a Creative Commons license is freesounds.org.

Once your podcast sounds the way you want, save it, and then export it as an MP3 file.

Grading: Worth 15% of your grade

I've divided the class into four groups for this assignment. Each group has a different due date:

Podcast 1 = 10/13/11	Podcast 3 = 11/29/11
Podcast 2 = 11/1/11	Podcast 4 = 12/8/11

All 4 parts of your project are due on your due date. Your project can earn full credit only if all its parts are turned in on the due date. When your project is complete and submitted, I will upload your podcast to the course Blackboard page. We'll then play them in class so everyone can enjoy.