

Melanie E.S. Kohnen: Vid Assignment

This assignment is part of an assignment sequence for students who create their thesis projects in the form of a video essay. Students are introduced to fan vidding via a two-hour screening that surveys the history and aesthetics of vidding via select examples.

The goal of this assignment is to make a 3-4min. vid that introduces one TV show that is featured in your project.

In this vid, don't try to summarize the plot and don't try to summarize the argument of your project. Instead, provide a feel for the show—its major themes, its stylistic approach, its characters. Watching vids in class should give you a sense of how to accomplish that.

A secondary goal of this assignment is to challenge you to convey meaning through the combination or juxtaposition of music and images alone; there should be no text aside from a title and no excerpts from the dialogue. Vids are successful because they use a song that works well as a lens for interpreting the clips. Editing becomes a crucial tool for this success. It doesn't take much time to make a vid; however, it takes a lot of time to make a good vid. Most of the vids we watched for class took months to make. No worries—I do not expect you to live up to those standards, but I do expect you to try your best.

As you work on your vid, try to keep a few basic principles of vidding in mind, as we discussed during our vid screening.

Vids made by previous capstone students:

- [Rick and Morty: Character Study](#)
- [Rick and Morty: Thematic Study](#)
- [San Junipero: Thematic Study](#)
- [Homeland: supporting characters study](#)
- [True Crime TV: thematic study](#)
- [The Get Down: thematic study](#)