

Classroom Innovation Grant Form

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| Submission Date | 05-01-2018 17:07:43 |
| Name | Scott Cohen |
| E-mail | scohen@stonehill.edu |
| Amount requested (\$1,000 max) | \$500 |
| If your project involves human subjects, have you discussed this with the director of the Institutional Review Board? | Not applicable |
| Project title | Radio Radio |
| Description of the project (750 words max) | <p>In fall 2018, I am teaching a First-Year Seminar entitled, Radio: From Broadcast to Podcast. Over the course of the semester, we'll explore the ways radio has shaped storytelling and culture since its inception to present. We will look at how radio was foundational to developing cultural and national identity during the 20th century as well as how broadcast technologies represented spaces for forming alternative and subcultural communities through pirate radio, Citizen's Band radio, and amateur radio.</p> <p>This is a course about telling stories as well as listening. To this end, I will be asking students to keep listening journals during the semester, encouraging them to listen to terrestrial radio broadcasts as well as digital feeds of broadcasts.</p> <p>To this end, I would like to offer students a chance to better understand the fundamentals of radio through the hands-on activity of building their own crystal diode radio receivers.</p> <p>A common project for hobbyists of all ages since the early 20th century, a crystal diode radio involves just a handful of parts (wire, diode, resistor, earpiece, and antenna).</p> <p>The project will allow students to better understand how radios work, the radio frequency spectrum, the nature of radio waves and their transmission.</p> <p>After assembling their radios, they'll be able to receive AM radio broadcasts.</p> |
| Discuss the benefit to the Stonehill community | It is my hope that students will find the exercise a powerful lesson in building and making. I also hope it will inspire other forms of mark-based learning. |
| How will you share your project findings or outcomes with the Stonehill community? | We will take photographs of the process and finished projects, posting them as DIY instructions on the course website. I am also happy to present my findings to colleagues as requested. |

Please detail your budget.

The \$500 dollars I'm requesting will provide for kits or materials for kits for all 16 students in the seminar.

I haven't yet decided whether I should purchase materials to assemble kits for the students or purchase kits from a vendor. During the summer I will build a prototype kit and determine which is most cost and time effective. The wire and the earpiece (\$10) are the most costly items.

Quality vendor kits cost around \$30 each--e.g. https://www.amazon.com/Kit-réception-Radio-cristal-dantan/dp/B001JT8ICl/ref=sr_1_11?s=toys-and-games&ie=UTF8&qid=1525206885&sr=1-11&keywords=crystal+radio+receiver and https://unitednuclear.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=947