

11/10

Beauty and risk/safety

Justice is the Best Medicine:
Reimagining Healthcare and the Medical Industrial Complex
Instructor: Katherine Wang, Tufts University

Lynda Barry Four-Square Journaling

DID 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	SAW/ NOTICED 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
HEARD	(DRAWING)

7 things you did today (2 minutes)

7 things you saw today (2 minutes)

What did you hear? Can be actual dialogue, or sounds, or music, etc. (1 minute)

Draw something you mentioned! (2 minutes)

Free-write on one item on your list (2 minutes)

Turn to a partner and share:

- 1) Your free-write OR
- 2) Any other element of your journaling

Game code: _____

GooseChase!!

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3

1. Find your group members
2. Designate roles
 - a. **Photographer**: downloads the GooseChase app and takes photos
 - b. **Timekeeper**: makes sure team is back at 6:50pm!
 - c. **Location manager**: keeps track of where photos are taken
 - d. **Model**: poses in the photos

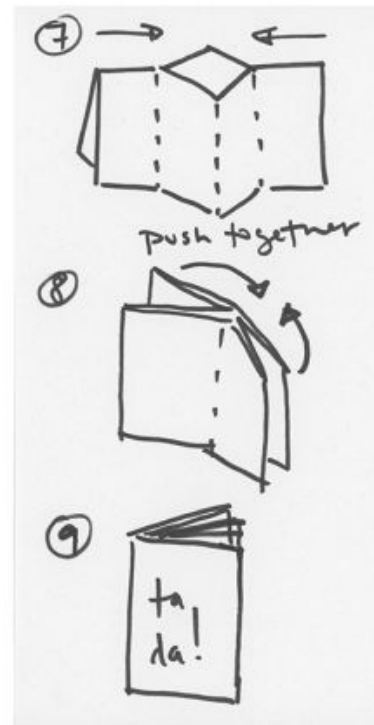
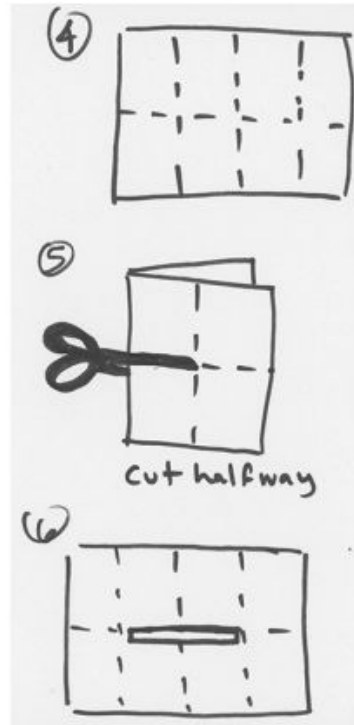
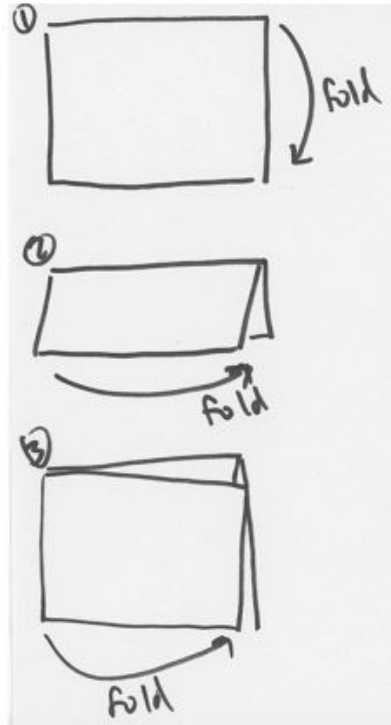
******If you cannot find anything within 15 mins, you can look up ads online to document!***

Visual Analysis

1. Without assigning meaning, what obvious messaging do you see?
 - a. Describe the physical qualities of the photo
2. What underlying meaning do you notice and extrapolate?
 - a. Describe how this photo makes you feel or ask what it is “telling you” to do
 - b. Describe what this photo is calling “good” or “bad”

10-min break!

Zine-making + discussion





What work goes into maintaining my body on a daily basis?



**Do I have a choice in whether or not I
modify my body?**

Why does beauty afford us safety?



Why is beauty conflated with health?

How can our reliance on visibility become problematic? Be specific to the medical-industrial complex

Ex. Surgeries on intersex infants that are falsely deemed “medically necessary”
→ will talk about this next week!



What are we missing out on when we focus on and judge on what is visible?

Lingering ideas, thoughts, questions

Takeaways

- Science/medicine is powerful authority
- Beauty is very profitable bc it affords us literal/perceived safety
- Health and beauty can be conflated
 - → **Medical industry wields a lot of power in constructing health via people's everyday labor for beauty**
 - Health "legitimizes" the desire for beauty
- But can be problematic or risky:
 - Certain beauty routines/procedures
 - Our inherent reliance on visibility
 - Medicalizing what doesn't need to be pathologized