One of the earlier iterations that I had for poverty and food insecurity was that I was trying to tie it to political instability. I was drawn to the fact that there were commonalities between social upheavals and uprisings and hunger. There’s a reason that we saw bread riots in both the French Revolution and in the Arab Spring. There was a high correlation.
with social upheaval and the rise in food costs. I didn't have that universality that I was looking for. I didn't have that, you know, that red flag. After going through some more literature, that helped me refine it and frame it. And sort of I was afraid to do so but widened the perspective, you know? What happens when a place is politically unstable if the institutions cannot function to help their citizens? Well then those who are most vulnerable, those
who are most poor, are the ones were more susceptible to increases in food insecurity. I suppose my biggest challenge was making it not as technical.

It was finding pieces that weren't giving me all the scientific and legal jargon. Because, like I said, it was difficult to find the survivor stories and to relate that in a way that didn't come off as appealing to pathos without having any real logic behind it. It's always a very difficult area. Like
when you have to mix the two just finding ways to support your research and support your topic. And I think I found definitely that almost every source I used had statistics all over the place, and nothing saying, "This is the real impact of this."

And that's why I really reached out in the end to Paul because I just wanted someone to sit down with and talk to about it instead of staring at a computer screen.
I think the 10-page thing was really difficult. I always over-research so I went in and I was like, "Okay, I'm gonna find any resource that I can possibly find on this and I'm just gonna compile it all and see where I end up." And even then I was realizing just talking about like person to person, I was not finding enough. So I really had to kind of push myself to say, "Okay, what can I do to fill 10 pages? What can I do that's gonna be like related to the topic and
informational and important, but at the same time help me like reach the page limit that I needed to make?” So that's where I think the “journalist angle” came in. Which is something where I was as I was writing, I'm like I can't believe I hadn't thought of this before as like a you know student reporter and someone who is involved in journalism. And I was like, "Oh, well obviously there's some sort of like influence here and something needs to be said about it.” [Music] [University of Delaware, Library, Museums & Press animated logo.]
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