American History Research Project Guidelines – 2016/2017

Introduction:
The purpose of this research project is to take a 20th Century historical topic and provide background information (research) on that particular topic. You will need to provide the overall significance of this topic with regard to its era. The project will include multiple steps (listed below) and will follow standard MLA format.

Objectives of the Research Project:
Research is a life skill. We are always seeking information. The ability to research questions and explain the results clearly are needed not just in college but in every profession. In the process of completing the Research Paper, you will:

- Persist on a task
- Choose a relevant historical topic
- Learn how to find relevant sources

Parts of the Research Project:
1. Pre-search Activity completed in class (January 5-6)
   a. This part of the project will help you with topic selection and provide some focus for the research that you will conduct.
2. Research in the LIBRARY (January 9th-13th)
   a. Classes will meet in the library over the course of approximately 1 week to allow each individual student the chance to conduct their research.
   b. This is also the time that you will be working on your annotated bibliographies (see #3).
   c. **Primary Source:** documents that were created by the witnesses or first recorders of these events at about the time they occurred, and include diaries, letters, reports, photographs, creative works, financial records, memos, and newspaper articles (to name just a few types).
   d. **Secondary Source:** created later by someone who did not experience first-hand or participate in the events or conditions you’re researching. For the purposes of a historical research project, secondary sources are generally scholarly books and articles.
   e. Print sources are books or databases from the library
3. Annotated Bibliographies
   a. Each student will be required to complete a total of 12 annotated bibliographies (two sets of 6) over sources covering their selected topics. Information regarding the annotated bibs can be found on the ONW Libguides page and will be covered in class.
4. Claims and Evidence Sheet
   a. The Claims and Evidence sheet is basically the outline of a formal research paper. The sheet can be found on the Libguides page and will be covered in class.
5. Works Cited Page
   a. For each of the sources that you include on your Claims and Evidence Sheet you will be required to cite that source on a standard MLA formatted Works Cited Page. This will be turned in along with the Claims and Evidence Sheet.

**TYPES OF SOURCES** for Annotated Bibs:
- ABC-Clio (max 3)
- Print Source (min 2)
- Primary (min 2)
- Other Sources (5-8)

**TYPES OF SOURCES** for Claims and Evidence Sheet:
- Total (6 min, 9 pieces of evidence)
- ABC-Clio (max 1)
- Print Source (min 1)
- Primary (min 2)
- Other Sources (3 min)
Due Dates
January 5-6 – Pre-Search Activity in class (10 points)
January 9-13 - Research in the library (10 points)
January 9 (at the end of the hour) – Thesis due (10 points)
  • Submit on Google Classroom
January 12 (at end of the block) – Annotated Bibliography Set #1 is due. (60 points - 10 points per analysis)
  • Annotated bib must include 6 different sources analyzed
  • Submit on turnitin.com
January 19 (by 3pm) – Annotated Bibliography Set #2 is due (60 points - 10 points per analysis)
  • Annotated bib must include 6 different sources analyzed
  • Submit on turnitin.com
  • Discuss the Claims and Evidence with Works Cited this day

***From this total list of 12 sources, you must use a minimum of 6 sources with 9 pieces of evidence on your Claims and Evidence Sheet.***

February 2 – Library work time
February 3 (by 8am)– Claims and Evidence Sheet including Works Cited Page due (50 points)
  • Submit on turnitin.com

Total value of project = 200 points