Genius Hour – Quarter 3


For this paper, you must analyze primary and secondary sources. The end result of this project will be a thesis-driven research paper.

- Everything you turn in to me MUST be typed when specified. I will not accept work that is not typed.
- Please keep everything that you turn in and that I return to you.

Objectives of the Research Paper 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 Project, you will:

- Persist on a task
- Choose a relevant historical topic
- Learn how to find relevant sources
- Sustain a claim over a specified length

Ideas to be covered in the research paper
- Background Information
- What are you trying to prove? (Your argument)
- Historical Themes
- Historical significance of the topic (Historiography): Analyze how biases towards a moment in history change with the times, e.g. the Civil War, the Puritans, Andrew Jackson, Reconstruction, woman’s movement, etc.

Requirements for the research paper
- Paper is to be 2000-3000 words
- Double spaced
- 12 point font
- Times New Roman or Calibri style
- 1-inch margins
- Libguide Page: http://olatheschools.libguides.com/americanhistory

- 12 Annotated Bibliographies
  - A template can be found in the Library Research Packet as well as on the Libguide
    - ABC-Clio – maximum 3
    - Print source (Physical Book) – minimum 2
    - Primary, text only (legal documents, diaries, speeches, cases, correspondence, etc.)– minimum 2
    - Other sources – minimum 5-8
- Paper must use at least 7-8 appropriate sources. Include:
  - ABC-Clio – maximum 1
  - Print source (Physical Book) – minimum 1
  - Primary, text only (legal documents, diaries, speeches, cases, correspondence, etc.) – minimum 2
  - Other types – minimum 3-4
- The paper must have at least 10 in-text citations. (MLA Format)
**Helpful Hints**

- Heading should be on page 1 in the upper, left corner, **not on a separate page**.
- Do not skip lines between paragraphs
- No –pedia
- Textbook is not a source
- Good writing involves several drafts.
  - Read your paper out loud to yourself, parent, sibling, dog, cat, wall, whatever. This will be sure it makes sense.
- No presentism = uncritical adherence to present-day attitudes, especially the tendency to interpret past events in terms of modern values and concepts

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**Due Dates**

You will be working on the project in stages according to the following schedule although I reserve the right to adjust the dates to fit better with our curriculum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Turn in to:</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presearch Topics &amp; Select</td>
<td>Graphic Org and</td>
<td>January 13 – bring Jan. 18</td>
<td>15 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Google Form</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Research, notetaking, and Annotated</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>January 18-20, 23-24</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography work</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Using library time )</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliographies (12)</td>
<td>Turnitin.com</td>
<td>January 20 (first 6)</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<td>End of hour</td>
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<td>January 24 (second 6)</td>
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<td>3pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough Draft</td>
<td>Turnitin.com</td>
<td>January 31 10pm</td>
<td>65 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~Turn in a copy of your works cited</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rough Draft – PEER EDITS</td>
<td>Peer Edit x2 &amp; own</td>
<td>February 1 (block)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>draft</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Revised Draft</td>
<td>Turnitin.com</td>
<td>February 17** 11:59pm</td>
<td>200 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~Turn in a revised copy of your works cited</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conferences over Final Copies</td>
<td>In Class</td>
<td>February 22,24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>350 Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Earn up to 10 points extra credit: two points per day that you hand it in early.**
OTHER REMINDERS

Presearch, Topic Selection – Friday, January 13
Choose your topic from the topic list or your own research. The topic must be phrased into an essential question if it has not already been done so. I will return this to you as soon as possible with either an OK or a request that you think of a different topic. If you haven’t already, I will ask you to narrow your subject down and resubmit it. For example, it is too broad to say that you’re writing a paper on the Civil War, but you could say that you are writing a paper on the presidential campaign of 1864 or the siege of Petersburg.
- You will want to narrow your topic by event, time period, or perspective.
- You will incorporate at least one of the historical themes.

Thesis/Central Claim – January 18 (Graphic organizer and Google Form)
- Develop a thesis statement based on your research. Remember, your thesis may change as you do more research, but your goal is to try to nail down your argument as early as possible. This can be best accomplished by READING EARLY ON.
  - A good thesis statement states something that can be argued on both sides with you taking a position. You are stating what you will prove in your paper. Don’t write something namby-pamby like “The twenties were an important decade in American history.” Blech! An acceptable statement would be “While certainly a decade of exciting new trends in the culture, the twenties were also marked by tensions beneath the surface for those who resisted these cultural changes and desired a return to a more traditional religious America.”

Annotated Bibliography – January 20 (Block) and January 24 (Tuesday) (turnitin.com)
- Your annotated Bibliography should have 12 total sources used.
- From these 12 sources, you will use 7-8 within your final draft of the research paper.
- Use the proper format for the Annotated Bibliography and source
- Use MLA format –The Librarian will be very helpful with this. There is a template in your Research Paper Guide and on the Libguide page.
- You must have at least two primary sources. The more primary documents you make use of, the better job you will do as a historian.
- The general Internet is not a sufficient source for a high quality research paper.

Rough Draft – January 31* (turnitin.com)
With your rough draft submit an attached Works Cited page to turnitin.com
- Turn in a copy of your works cited with your rough draft to turnitin.com.
- You will peer edit 2 drafts from the class as well as your own (February 9 and 10)

Revised Draft – February 17** (turnitin.com)
- Turn in a copy of your revised works cited with your revised draft to turnitin.com.

*You will lose 30% for work turned in late.*