

AP US History Research and Writing Assignment

Objective:

The goal of this assignment is to help you to become familiar with basic research tools through the library website and the creation of a Works Cited page. The assignment also ensures that students learn how to find and effectively use information found during research. Students will practice the skills of historical research to gather primary and secondary sources which they will then use to write an in class essay about their topic.

Focus of your research:

What is the person's contribution to their time period and the larger framework of U.S. History? Students should gather basic research on the time period in which the person was an adult as well as their specific contributions.

Requirements for research:

One primary sources (must be printed out and turned in with final essay) - **3 pages maximum for this source.**

Three secondary sources (must be printed out and turned in with final essay) - **3 pages maximum for each source.**

Works cited page (printed out and turned in with final essay)

Writing requirements and due date: (September 17th)

On September 17th: Students will use their 4 sources to write a 3 paragraph in class essay responding to a prompt. They will cite their sources in the essay by clearly labeling each of their 4 sources at the top of the first page of each document with "Doc 1,2,3 or 4". Then they will cite the document with the document # in their essay.

Students must bring their printed out sources and works cited page to class and turn this in with their final essay.

Failure to come to class prepared with the appropriate sources will significantly lower your grade and limit the time that you have to write your essay.

In order to complete this assignment, you will need to use the MLA format for your citations. Use the online program Noodle Tools to assist with creating the appropriate citations for each source. There is a link to Noodle Tools on your my.cherrycreek dashboard. The librarian will help you set up your project in Noodle Tools on the first

day in the computer lab and also connect you with my class inbox which will give you access to important teacher links.

Students should look in the online subscription databases to find 1 primary source and 3 secondary sources about their topic. Since students will be using these sources to write an in class essay, **these sources should be limited to a maximum of 3 pages each.**

Spend time reading through the sources that you find. Make sure you understand them and they have useful information to answer a prompt about your topic. If you do not understand them or they do not provide useful information CHOOSE DIFFERENT SOURCES!!

How to access the online databases:

Use the teacher links in your Noodle Tools project to access “Academic Databases and Online Resources”. Then scroll down to “Social Studies”. If you are accessing the databases from home you will need to use the following:

Username: creek Password: bear

(There are a few cases in which you will need different access codes to access certain databases - you can find these at the top of the list on the “Academic Databases and Online Resources” under “Remote logins and passwords”)

Rubric:

Each source is printed out and neatly attached to the final essay and labeled appropriately (Doc 1,2,3,4) (20 points)

A “Works Cited” page using the correct MLA format, with all appropriate citations is attached to final essay (10 points)

In class essay will include:

Historical context on the time period with appropriate in text citation(s). (5 points)

Appropriate thesis statement (5 points)

Two body paragraphs on the impact of your person on their time period and American History with appropriate in text citations. (14 points)

At least three of the four documents from your research are used and appropriately cited in the text (Doc 1, 2, 3,4) (6 points)