

THE SALON de MADAME GEOFFRIN

THE SETTING: Paris, 1755. A Parisian salon hosted by one of the grand dames of France, Madame de Geoffrin.

Entertaining the likes of Adam Smith, Mary Wollstonecraft, Voltaire, Frederick the Great, and Jean Jacques Rousseau, she created an environment where the leading thinkers of the Enlightenment could freely discuss their often controversial observations on science, literature, politics, and philosophy. However, she also hosted the creative geniuses of her time, Johannes Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Louis le Vau, at her sumptuous gatherings to broaden the minds of her guests.

Your task will be to research and emulate one of these titans of the Enlightenment (you may also include people from the Scientific Revolution and American Revolution), and mingle with your colleagues during a salon on _____. You will be expected to tell your colleagues about yourself and your accomplishments in a social setting (think a formal party). As such, you will be handing out “calling cards” to the people that you meet. These cards will have your basic bio, similar to a sports card. You should create enough to hand out to 10 people (one of whom is your instructor). Dressing up as that person or bringing finger foods that would be appropriate for a salon is considered extra credit for this project.

This project is worth 50 points!

RUBRIC:

□ Salon Mingling _____/25

- Student interacts with 5-9 other students
 - Must mingle with artist/musician, politician/leader, philosophe, scientist
 - Collect calling cards of people students interact with/learn about
- Student discusses major accomplishments with minimal reference to notes
- Student creates a dialogue with other students, does not just present self and move on
- Students exchange calling cards AFTER discussion for minimum 5 minutes

📁 Paperwork _____/25

o Calling Card

- ✓ 10 minimum
- ✓ May be hand-drawn or digitally designed
- ✓ Front:
 - Name of person is clear.
 - Decorated to reflect the ideas of the person.
 - Design is well-done and neat
- ✓ Back:
 - Divide the back into 3 sections: (must have 2 items in each section)
 - Major Achievements/Philosophy/idea
 - Quotes
 - Any Published Materials
 - Design is well-done and neat

o List of references (typed)

- 4 sources minimum
- Only 1 encyclopedia or wiki
- MLA format
- Typed
- Annotated
- Only for teacher
- May be separate from calling card

🍴 Food/dress _____/+2

TOTAL: _____/50