

US History I: Economies of North and South Thesis Paper Assignment

Thesis: Your thesis statement must argue whether your topic contributed to rising sectionalism in the United States between 1800 and 1860. Your thesis must be an argument/ statement of opinion that you will use your research to prove. You may choose a more specific topic from the Brinkley chapters on America's economic revolution, slavery and the old south and the era of reforms.

Components:

Works Cited Page due: Monday 3/24 point value: 10

Note: This must be typed, and list at least five sources in proper MLA format. At least two sources must be non-web sources. The works cited list can be changed/updated after this point.

Thesis and citations/notecards due: Wednesday 4/2 point value: 20

Students should submit a preliminary thesis and at least 3 notecards from each source they are using (minimum 15 notecards total). Each note card should contain one unique interpretation, fact, statistic or piece of information, and the page it was found on. You will also need at least 3 primary source quotes for this part of the assignment (and in your final paper). You may choose to submit a typed list of citations (the full source information for each source, followed by 3 citations from the source) instead of notecards if you prefer.

Outline due: Monday 4/7 point value: 10

This must be one to two pages typed in MLA format, and should show the preliminary structure of the paper. Include the full text of your thesis statement in the first paragraph section of your outline.

Rough draft for peer edit: Friday 4/11 point value: 30

The rough draft needs to be as close to the final draft as possible: 5-6 pages (typed and double spaced with 1" margins) typed with proper citations and an updated works cited page. You will be peer editing in class on Friday, and should only need to make minor edits to your paper after this point. This phase will not be accepted for late credit.

Final Draft due: Monday 4/14 point value: 100

Your final product will be a well-written, well-edited 5-6 typed, 5-6 double spaced page thesis paper with proper citations and a works cited page attached. Late submissions will be penalized by 10 points per day.

We will go over the research process in class in more detail over the course of the next few weeks. However, the following website, maintained by Purdue University, will most likely be able to answer nearly every question you may have: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/>. Use the left menu to navigate through the various topics.

Be aware that any instance of plagiarism will result in a failing grade on that stage of the assignment. Plagiarism consists of passing off another's work as one's own without crediting the original source. Examples of this include directly copying portions of a resource without citing it, using the ideas of a source but slightly changing the words without citing the source, buying or using an essay found online, using an essay written by another student or allowing one's own work to be submitted by another student. Please see pages 6-7 of the student handbook for further clarification.

	<i>OUTSTANDING (A)</i>	<i>GOOD (B)</i>	<i>FAIR (C)</i>	<i>POOR (D/F)</i>
Thesis / Intro	-Unique thesis that is clearly stated and directly answers a question. -Context/background establishes the significance of thesis	-Thesis addresses the question but could be better developed. -Some context/ background provided	-Thesis is limited and/or vague and could be better developed. -Little context/ background provided	-No clear thesis. -Does not present a position. -Lacks context/ background info
Organization	-Appropriate and interesting title that relates to thesis. -Clear, logical, well-planned organization where each part is connected to the whole. -Effective transitions b/n and within paragraphs. - 5-6 pages in length with correct formatting	-Organization is evident with few inconsistencies. -Has intro, conclusion and body paragraphs with topic sentences that usually relate to the whole (thesis). -Makes transitions. - 5-6 pages in length with correct format	-Inconsistent organization. -Ineffective or few transitions. -Some paragraphs underdeveloped or lacking topic sentences. -Focus is unclear; some points not connected explicitly to thesis. -Topic sentences need work. - Not quite 5-6 pages in length with -Some formatting problems	-Lacks proper organization. -Little to no evidence of transitions. -Incomplete intro, conclusion or body paragraphs. -Many points not connected to the thesis. - Not 5-6 pages in length, significant formatting problems
Evidence	-Collects and presents highly specific, relevant, and accurate evidence. -Supports thesis and main idea of each body paragraph with evidence in the form of (at least 3) primary and (additional) secondary source quotes. -Evidence is thoroughly explained and analyzed -Frames quotes with own words & provides explanation -Properly cites quotes and paraphrases. -Has MLA Works Cited page for all sources cited, and sources cited in the paper match with those on the WC page	-Collects and presents specific, relevant, and accurate evidence. -Supports thesis and main idea of each body paragraph with evidence using some primary source quotes. -evidence is well explained and analyzed -Introduces quotes and analyzes significance -Properly cites quotes and paraphrases. -Has MLA Works Cited page for all sources cited, and all or almost all sources cited match with quotes on the works cited page	-Collects and presents little relevant evidence. -Some examples and details support thesis/main idea. -evidence is included but not sufficiently explained or analyzed -Offers general statements without evidence. -Some quotes without explanation -Has a works cited page and some citations. Some sources may not be cited in the work itself. - Quotes are not well-selected and not from primary sources	-Most examples and/or details do not support thesis/main idea. -collects and presents little or no evidence. -Consists mostly of general statements without evidence. - Quotes are not included or are not well chosen or relevant . -Incorrect citations or works cited page

K n o w l e d g e o f T o p i c	-Demonstrates knowledge and understanding from a variety of high quality sources. -Interpretation of evidence leads to logical and unique conclusions -Makes larger connections with the themes of the historical period, i.e. clearly demonstrates how the topic fueled the sectional crisis	-Demonstrates adequate knowledge from varied sources. -Interpretation of evidence leads to logical and obvious conclusions -Makes some larger connections.	-Demonstrates some knowledge from less than 5 sources. -Makes vague connections. -Some information is confused or inaccurate. -Interpretation of evidence leads to faulty conclusions or -Conclusion is underdeveloped.	-Demonstrates little knowledge about the topic. -Uses less than 3 sources that lack variety -Makes no larger connections. -Illogical and/or no conclusions
L a n g u a g e a n d M e c h a n i c s	-Effective and rich word choice and style -Uses formal language. -Mechanics correct. -Well-edited and proofread.	-Appropriate word choice -Mechanics (spelling, grammar, contractions, capitalization) mostly correct with few errors. -Complete sentences, but some unvaried structures	-Limited word choice, informal writing style. -Many mechanical errors (spelling, capitalization, grammar, contractions) -Some sentence fragments and/or run-ons	-Inappropriate or overly simplistic word choice. -Mechanical errors (spelling, capitalization, grammar, contractions) confuse meaning -Sentence fragments or run-ons.

Comments:

Final Grade:

/100