

I believe in self-directed learning; only you can be responsible for your education. Teachers act as facilitators, but we can't learn the material for you. In this vein of thought, I prefer to offer only vague direction for extra credit assignments. You may complete up to three extra credit assignments for a nine week grading period. These assignments can replace low grades (including zeros) or points can be divided among many grades that could use a little boost. I will decide what helps you the most and therefore how to apply the points. All you need worry about is learning something in the process. Remember, EVERYTHING is history (even the moment I typed this), so math, science, literature, sports, pop culture, etc... are ALL legitimate topics.

Your options:

1) Traditional: Research a (school appropriate) topic of your choice and write/type an essay analyzing, discussing, or otherwise working with some source(s) for that topic (this may be primary sources, secondary sources, or both). Essays should be at least 2 pages if you expect it to qualify as a replacement for a zero. Shorter essays will earn however many points I deem appropriate.

2) Presentation: Research a (school appropriate) topic of your choice and create a presentation similar to those I sometimes use, and that you have created in class. I may *offer* (not force) you to present your project to the class for more points. I hesitate to give a number of slides required given the variability, of slides, in this type of project; I think 15 (including title and works cited slides) would be approximately the minimum to replace a zero. My decision will be dependent on my assessment of your project in terms for the time and effort I think went into it, and how well you illuminate the topic you chose.

3) Artistic: Create a drawing, painting, sculpture, etc... inspired by a time period or topic of your choosing (school appropriate). These should reflect a good deal of effort and thought about why you decided to create the art. It would be a good idea to include a brief typed/written explanation of your product. Assessment will be dependent on performance, time, and effort.

4) Hands On: Build something (i.e. I have links for how to build a small viking catapult on the bookmarks page, under Unit 5: Vikings) from history. Make a workable scaled down model of some military technology (no weapons at school though!!!), famous architecture, scientific advancements, early cities, etc... There are lots of options; be creative! Assessment will be dependent on performance, time, and effort.

5) Other: There are other options I have not included (i.e. inventing a game based on history). That's where self-direction comes in. If you have another idea for an extra credit project just talk to me about it or email me (glenn.yutzy@mcdowell.k12.nc.us) and I will most likely approve your idea or, if need be, help to rework your idea into something acceptable. Assessment will be dependent on performance, time, and effort.