Creating a Historical Timeline using TimelineJS
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https://tinyurl.com/hist503-sp18-timelines

What it does: TimelineJS (http://timeline.knightlab.com/) allows you to create a media-rich, interactive timeline that is hosted online, or can be embedded in another website.

How it works: Provides you with a Google Spreadsheet template that you copy to your Drive and fill out (I've created a template for each group already). The template provides examples of how to format your data, but sometimes throws errors with image URLs, even if there is no problem. To get started, delete the pre-existing content (once you're sure how to fill in each cell). Make sure you don't delete any of the columns! Once you've published it to the Web, you can continue to make changes, which will update "on the fly."

Limitations:
- Cannot handle a huge amount of data (e.g. points on the timeline); chokes after about 25-30 rows of data. Workaround: "chunk out" your data thematically, chronologically, or in some other way, which requires careful choices about what to include/exclude.
- Difficult to convey uncertainty about time periods / periodization

Examples:
- Pam's messy/boring example from summer 2016 (this is hosted in Timeline JS)
- A series of timelines chunked out thematically for a public history project in Gastonia, NC: http://projects.dhpress.org/loraydigital/timelines/

What you need to get started:
- ❏ Google account (but not for this class; the templates we've setup do not require Google sign-in! All of the templates are here: https://tinyurl.com/hist503-sp18-timelines)
- ❏ Images need to be web-accessible, either in Dropbox, Google Drive, or already on the web. If loading images yourself, make sure they are set to "anyone with link can view" (or fully public, if you're comfortable with that)
  - ❏ If pulling images from elsewhere on the Internet, you'll need the direct image URL (see this guide if you're not sure how to do this)
  - ❏ Don't forget to cite where the image comes from!

Questions to get you thinking for your final assignment:
- What are the most salient points to share in a timeline? What are the significant moments of your story?
- How does each point in the timeline help tell a larger narrative?
- How does each point relate to other points?
- How do the points in your timeline buy into a periodization model?
- What are some keywords that characterize your timeline entry? (ex: gender; politics; economic; military; entertainment; imperialism; religion)

In-class Exercise (February 1)
What you'll be doing: Each group will practice entering 1 sample event into our shared template: "20180201_In-classTestTimeline_Template." Start @ Row 9
- Today's shared google spreadsheet is located here: https://tinyurl.com/hist503-sp18-timelines. You do not need to be signed into Google
- You can view the final timeline here. Note that this is not a real timeline.

How do I enter BCE dates? (http://timeline.knightlab.com/#help)
To enter dates before the common era, just use a negative value for the year. Of course, you can also enter month and date if you need them.

Additional Information for your Group Assignment (due February 15)
Keywords
For each event you enter, you will also include a **keyword** in the group column (Column Q). The keyword you select should speak to the overall characterization of the event. For example:
- Gender/women
- Politics
- Economic
- Military
- Entertainment
- Imperialism/wars
- Religion
- Environment/ecological
- Infrastructure/urbanization
There may be another keyword that is more salient for your event; you are not limited to this list.

HTML Tips for your Text Field
Given the length of the entry you'll be writing, I strongly recommend that you *write your long text entry elsewhere* (such as a Word or Google Doc). This will make it easier to edit and spell check. When your description is completed, you can enter it into the description field (Column K) -- but make sure to test the HTML first (see below for details)

HTML formatting elements include a start tag <> and an end tag </>. Want to format something not included in this list? Check out the helpful W3Schools HTML tutorials.

Formatting	HTML tag	HTML code / example
Italics	<i> </i>	<i>Ab Urbe Condita</i>
Bold	 	Week Three (1/30 and 2/1) Overview of Roman History

Hyperlink	 	Visit our HTML tutorial
Paragraph Breaks		This is my first paragraph. This is my second paragraph. This is my third paragraph.

HTML elements may be combined in a nested fashion, meaning that the end tags should appear in inverse order to the start tags:

> <p>This is my first paragraph.</p> <p>This is my <i>second</i> paragraph.</p> <p>This is my third paragraph.</p>

**For the purposes of our timeline spreadsheet, do not include any hard returns in your entry (i.e. don't hit "Enter"). Instead, use <p> paragraph breaks </p> to create separate paragraphs. In other words, your entire entry should be a single block of text.

Example:

> HTML as 1 uninterrupted block of text:
> <p>Lorem ipsum dolor amet kogi <i>thundercats</i> tbh yuccie venmo keytar fashion axe. Wayfarers chambray butcher, 90's craft beer palo santo thundercats air plant hoodie salvia.</p> <p> Everyday carry four dollar toast chartreuse, godard neutra 8-bit messenger bag synth master cleanse live-edge before they sold out man braid. Affogato portland polaroid paleo chartreuse, lomo hashtag gastropub unicorn kogi aesthetic.</p>

> Displays as 2 separate paragraphs:
> Lorem ipsum dolor amet kogi *thundercats* tbh yuccie venmo keytar fashion axe. Wayfarers chambray butcher, **90's craft beer** palo santo thundercats air plant hoodie salvia.

> Everyday carry four dollar toast chartreuse, godard neutra 8-bit messenger bag synth master cleanse live-edge before they sold out man braid. Affogato portland polaroid paleo chartreuse, lomo hashtag gastropub unicorn kogi aesthetic.

Test your code before you paste it into the template spreadsheet:
W3Schools provides great HTML tutorials, as well as a "Try it Yourself" editor where you can test your HTML code to make sure it works. Just delete everything on the left side, paste in your code, and hit the green "Run" button (see the screenshots below):

1. When you open the editor, there will already be some HTML displayed:

2. Delete all the text in the left pane and paste in your HTML code:

3. Hit the green run button to view your HTML code in action in the right pane: