

The purpose of the final project is for you to explore a question or interest that matters in contemporary American culture and one that has its roots (or at least some roots) in the 1960s, 70s and/or 80s. Your final project topic should align with the essential questions and/or with at least one of the guiding quotes of the class.

Use the questions you've developed and/or are developing about your topic to explore resources from a span of decades covered in this course. For each resource, you will need to create an entry of an annotated bibliography as part of the project.

Develop an argument or a point of view based on the research you have completed, one in line with the essential question(s) and/or guiding quote(s) for the course, and use this to develop the best way to share what you know in a final project.

Final project scoring guide (adapted from the Oral Response rubric and the Oral Presentation Rubric)

Knowledge, understanding and insight as expressed through (as applicable): the quality and extent of the research, the analysis of the evidence gathered via research to inform the argument, the connection to culture/essential questions/guiding quotes, and your ability to guide me through the thinking in the final, etc.

Creative thinking/risk-taking as demonstrated through the variety and appropriateness of the research sources, the ability to use the research findings in connection with the goal of the project to design a final project that takes advantage of the possibility/opportunity to most completely explore and share the information gathered.

Organization/ Design/ Communication as demonstrated through the clarity of the argument, the way in which the evidence and analysis guide the choice of project and solid design/communication skills guide me through the project.

Thorough adherence to the principles and goals of this project: including choice and use of resources (properly attributed and cited), on task use of class time to research, analyze and refine the question, argument and final project proposal and to refine the final project.

Grading for the annotated bibliography (these are taken from the school-wide Critical Thinking and Problem Solving rubric):

Create an accurate annotated bibliography that demonstrates an ability to identify and understand the problem being researched, thoroughly and completely organizes and assesses information from a variety of credible resources (approved in advance), consistently able to separate and evaluate facts from commentary or assumptions, extracts relevant and useful information, uses sound reasoning and logic, clearly explains the resources and draw conclusions based on the evidence gathered through the analysis and leads to a complete and thorough solution to the problem. **A**

Create an accurate annotated bibliography that demonstrates an ability to identify the problem being researched, gathers and organizes and assesses information from a variety of

credible resources (approved in advance), largely able to separate and evaluate facts from commentary or assumptions, extracts relevant and useful information, considers and understand the impact of the research, uses sound reasoning and logic explains the resources and draw conclusions based on the evidence gathered through the analysis and creates a solution to the problem. **B**

Create an annotated bibliography that demonstrates a need for guidance to identify the problem being researched, gathers and organizes and assesses some information from a variety of credible resources (approved in advance), somewhat able to separate and evaluate facts from commentary or assumptions, extracts some relevant and useful information, understands in part the impact of the research, demonstrates some sound reasoning and logic , explains the resources and draw conclusions based on some evidence gathered through the analysis and creates a partial solution to the problem. **C**

Create an annotated bibliography that demonstrates little ability to identify the problem gathers a minimal information from some credible resources (approved in advance), but demonstrates difficulty in separating and evaluating facts from commentary or assumptions, extracts minimal relevant and useful information, demonstrates difficulty in understanding the impact of the research, does little to explain the resources and draw conclusions based on some evidence gathered through the analysis and attempts a partial solution to the problem. **D**

Annotated bibliographies that do not meet the requirements of a D grade will earn a 50 or lower.