

# Iranian Culture & History

## PowerPoint Presentation & Paper

English 9

Ms. Vasich

*The purpose of this assignment is for you to be more informed about an aspect of Iranian culture or history to challenge our collective “single-story” on Iran and investigate how Satrapi’s text informs or challenges the history we have access to. You can work individually or with a partner on this project.*

We’ve been reading *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi and using her memoir as a way to access various parts of Iranian culture and history. Her memoir helps us challenge our “single-story” of Iran. Now, you use the text as a jumping point for a research project on one aspect of Iranian culture or history that you wish to be more knowledgeable about.

Listed are topics that you could choose from, but you are more than welcome to suggest your own topic as well, just make sure that you talk with me about this. Also, the topics below are very broad. After you’ve completed some research, you may want to examine one particular issue related to the general topic.

### **Possible topics to research:**

- ☐ Islamic religion
- ☐ Gender expectations/roles in Iran
- ☐ Class structures in Iran
- ☐ Persian culture
- ☐ Islamic Revolution
- ☐ Current Events in Iran
- ☐ Relationship of United States & Iran
- ☐ Other:\_\_\_\_\_

*(Again, you are welcome to choose something outside of this list, but you MUST speak with Ms. Vasich about this.)*

### **DUE DATES!!**

Topic Choice/Brainstorm: Tuesday, April 17th (end of class/google doc)

Paper Due (typed!): May 4th

Presentations: April 30-May 4th (Date of MY presentation:\_\_\_\_\_)

### **Part 1 of Research Project: Paper**

#### **Part 1: Synthesis of your Research (2-3 pages):**

This is your opportunity to share what you learned in your research, in all its glory. You must incorporate two sources outside Satrapi’s text (Wikipedia is not a source, while it’s not bad to initially consult) and use specific instances from Satrapi’s text.

**Part 2:** How does *Persepolis* complicate, resist, or complete the dominant understanding of Iranian history? How does it challenge the class’s collective “single-story” of Iran? **(1-2 pages).**

In answering these two questions, I want you to focus on the aspects of our “single-story” that directly relate to the research that you completed. This is not an easy question to tackle. I want you to come to the best understanding you can with this.

## Part 2 of Research Project: Presentation

You will give a 3-5 minute presentation in front of the class. Think of this as a highlight reel of your paper. You will be giving the most important details of your paper to the class. You should prepare a PowerPoint presentation with images and other forms of media from your research and possibly even from the text.

## Part 3 of Research Project: Class Collective Story

During your classmate's presentations, you will be choosing the most important slide from their presentation to put on a class produced powerpoint by filling out a survey to turn into me after each class period.

The purpose of this part of the assignment is to create a resource for you to return to as you continue to challenge your "single-story" of life in Iran and help others challenge theirs. Maybe this is a map, or a picture one of your classmates talked about in their presentation—maybe they had a good outline and synthesis of some information on their topic. I want to know what you found important from each presentation and value what your classmates are bringing in to the classroom.

### Need help getting started?

I'm always here for questions or just to chat about what you've got planned.

Here are some websites/videos I find interesting

<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/148508/january-28-2008/marjane-satrap> --Marjane Satrapi's interview on *The Colbert Report*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7\\_0SpjmRAfU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_0SpjmRAfU) 1979 Protests of the Shah

[http://www.choices.edu/resources/lesson\\_womeniniran.php](http://www.choices.edu/resources/lesson_womeniniran.php) Women in Iran--some helpful videos

<http://www.persia.org/> Iranian Cultural and Information Center

I encourage you to find new and interesting sources. Question the sources you find. Who's writing them? Why are they writing them? Who are they writing them for? Be curious! *Find information in places we wouldn't expect to find it!*

## Iranian History and Culture Paper Expectations

<b>MLA Formatting</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I included and properly cited at least 3 sources outside of class material.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I organized my paper in MLA format including a title page, section headings, page numbers, and a works cited list.</li></ul>
<b>Content &amp; Organization</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>My paper explores a specific topic and research question(s) that helped me understand a perspective outside of my own.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I wrote an introductory paragraph that attracts the reader's attention and ends with my thesis statement.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I began each body paragraph with a topic sentence that informs the reader of the paragraph's focus.</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I included supporting details and evidence in every paragraph. I use quotations and paraphrases to support my claims. I properly cite these sources using parenthesis.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I wrote a conclusion paragraph that reviews the major ideas in my paper and leaves the reader with a final thought to consider.</li> </ul>
<b>Connections to Persepolis</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have at least one body paragraph that directly connects and compares my topic to <i>Persepolis</i> using specific pieces of evidence from the graphic novel.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have at least one body paragraph that reflects the following question: How does <i>Persepolis</i> complicate, resist, or complete the dominant understanding of Iranian history?</li> </ul>
<b>Voice &amp; Mechanics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My writing does not have any spelling or grammatical errors.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I write using a formal voice. I avoid using “you” to address my reader.</li> </ul>

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## **Iranian History and Culture Presentation Expectations**

### **Visual Content (Slideshow)**

- I include at least 5 slides in my presentation that include important information about my topic.
- Every slide is visually appealing and includes an image (must include citation/website where image was found beneath image).
- All of my information is carefully edited; the graphics and images all strengthen my ideas and presentation.

### **Oral Content (What you say)**

- I include interesting stories, anecdotes, or data that relate to my topic.
- I make connections to *Persepolis*.
- I am able to respond to questions from my peers.

### **Communication/Presentation**

- I present using a clear voice that everyone can hear from a standing position in front of the class. I speak slowly.
- The presentation is 3-5 minutes in length.

### **Preparedness**

- I am ready to present on my scheduled presentation day.
- I have emailed or shared my presentation with Ms. Vasich BEFORE my presentation day.

### **Creativity**

- I include at least one creative element in my presentation (for example, music, a video, a podcast, a drawing, a poem, etc.). Use your imagination and think outside the box.