Research Paper

**Topic:** Choose an event or person that has changed the world. **Guidelines:** You need a clear thesis statement, supporting ideas and scholarly sources! Consider the impact, and clearly express it. Avoid creating a simple biography.

*Examples of people:* Nelson Mandela, Steve Jobs, Betty Friedan, past presidents, celebrities who have had research done about them such as The Beatles.

*Event options include:* wars, terrorist events, an invention, a scientific discovery, a change in law, and more. A social movement may be used as a whole as long as you avoid making your paper too broad. Explain the event, but focus more on what that event has meant over time.

What changes have occurred because of this event?

- **Topic Approval:** By the end of class on 4/4/19
- **5 – 8 pages** of text in MLA 8th edition format.
  The works cited page does not count toward page length, but you must have one!
- **5 sources required.** 4 sources must be scholarly (journal articles, books or educational movies). 1 internet source may be used as your fifth source, but it must be from a reputable website. *Wikipedia, about.com, personal blogs, gradesaver.com, etc., are not acceptable sources.*
- Plagiarism will result in a ZERO and the potential to fail the course. You will be reported to the Dean. Cite anything that is not your idea, and put quotes around other people’s words. Need help? Ask me!

*Suggested Process*

Brainstorm first, and then develop a research question, which will lead to a thesis statement.

- Any topic that is deemed ‘too modern’ will not be approved. For example, if you choose a topic such as the Black Lives Matter or #MeToo movements, you are likely to have difficulty finding scholarly articles.
- Do a basic search! If you were interested in one of these movements, perhaps you could focus the paper on previous movements, events, and people, which have resulted in these modern movements. In this way, you could use your internet source for the modern material and scholarly sources to discuss civil rights or feminism.

Evaluate the quality of your research question and the ease of research:

1. Does the question deal with a topic that interests me enough to spark my own thoughts?
2. Is the question fully researchable?
3. What type of information do I need?
4. What sources will have the information that I need to answer the research question (journals, books, internet resources, government documents)?
Fill in the information as you sign up!

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<tr>
<th>Conference Day/Date (in the classroom, starting 4/16)</th>
<th>Conference Time</th>
<th>Final Paper</th>
<th>Oral Presentation</th>
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**Lab day (4/4)** This is your opportunity to start researching if you have not already. You need to pick your topic by the end of class.

**Research Building Blocks (4/9)** Start researching NOW and cite your sources. You will need to submit a proposal as well as an annotated bibliography, which we will discuss in class.

**Conferences (4/16-4/25)** We will discuss your papers. If you need additional help, visit me during office hours, or you may make an appointment to see me during tutoring hours.

**Presentations (4/30-5/7)** You may not read your papers, but how you present is your decision. Make a poster, a PowerPoint or Prezi, or choose a different method. * You must attend all presentation dates unless you have a valid reason to miss class. Talking or being disrespectful to your classmates in any way as they present will result in a 5 point deduction from your presentation grade.

**Individual Conferences**

- **When:** You only need to attend one conference time. **Where:** The classroom.
- **What:** **Rough draft** of 3+ pages with an intro and body paragraphs plus a works cited page with at least two sources cited. **Why:** Feedback and discussion. My goal is to help you improve your paper!

**Penalties for Not Being Prepared**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Late (2-3 minutes): -2pts</th>
<th>More than 3 minutes late: <strong>ZERO for your paper</strong></th>
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<td>Length</td>
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<td>Works Cited</td>
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