

AP US History – Final Project

Write-Your-Own-DBQ

This assignment has two basic parts:

Part I: Construct a DBQ on some specific topic associated with US History.

- a. **Choose a topic/question**– Look over old AP questions on the College Board website for ideas for topics. If you don't find a topic/question that interests you, you may come up with your own topic, but you will need to submit it for approval.
- b. **Include at least eight documents.**
- c. Be sure that the documents are all from the appropriate time period. Use approximate years if there are none given.
- d. Include with the documents some description of the source (See samples of Past DBQs for examples).
- e. Remember to include a variety of opinions and documents types; **the documents should be conducive to categorization.** This means that you should have multiple approaches to the question and your documents should be able to be used in these multiple approaches.
- f. **Attach an annotated bibliography of all of the sources used in your research. You must have at least five different sources.** Remember that secondary sources will often provide the primary source material you will need along with a helpful context. These sources will be the places from which you cull your documents as well as research the time period of your DBQ.

Part II: Write a perfect answer to your DBQ.

- Use at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the documents.
- Integrate the documents in a variety of ways. Put the document letter in parenthesis when you use them in your argument.
- Always comment on the source's point of view. Don't quote documents, paraphrase them.
- All the other stuff we talked about over the year applies here. (Please consult class handouts for reminders on how to approach writing a DBQ response)
- DBQ must be typed, double-spaced and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -5 pages in length.

****A note about sources***

- Look at secondary sources to get primary sources. Put these secondary sources in your bibliography.
- Primary sources are those **from the time period you define in the question.**
- Documents from years prior to the stated time period can be used, if they are used to provide a larger context for the question.
- Any map is a primary source, no matter when it is made. The same is true for statistics of any sort.

Following items to be due:

- Topic/Question Selection (be ready with at least 3 choices) – **Wednesday, May 22nd**
- Preliminary Thesis and Annotated Bibliography (just of sources you've used up to this point) due. This should be typed and submitted. The more detail here, the better. – **Thursday, May 30th**
- Preliminary documents, typed outline of your DBQ response and annotated bibliography due. **Monday, June 3rd**.
 - You should have a selection of at least 8 documents that you hope to use as part of your DBQ.
 - You should explain for each how it ties into the question and your thesis. This should be typed and prepared for submission.
 - A note on your bibliography - keep the annotations for the original 4-5 you submitted and annotations for all other sources you've found since the first due date can just be 1-2 sentences long briefly explaining the content of source.
 - Be ready for a peer editing session in class. Please bring your typed introduction and 1-2 additional body paragraphs. (Feel free to bring any other materials that might be helpful during this activity) (**Editing session is on Tuesday, June 4th**)
- Final project: This should include your question, your documents and your typed response. **Thursday, June 6th (Day of your class Final)**

This project is worth a total of 100 points, broken down as follows:

- Topic/question submission – 5 points (0 if not turned in on time)
- Preliminary thesis statement – 10 points (0 if not turned in on time)
- Preliminary documents – 10 points (0 if not turned in on time)
- Final product – 75 points (0 if not turned in on time)

Remember, this is your FINAL EXAM for this class, and will be counted in your grade as such (~10% of your 2nd Semester grade). There are NO late turn-ins, and no exceptions. You have plenty of time to do it, don't procrastinate! ☺

On a lighter note, thank you for a fantastic year, and for being great people. I'll miss you, and hope you'll come back for another class with me, or even just to stop by and say hello. Be good to yourself and each other, and do your best in everything that you do.

Your AP US History teacher and friend,

- Mrs. Martin