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| **US History Research Paper** |

Length Requirement: 4 - 6 pages

Sources: A minimum of **five sources**, including **two print** sources (one can be your textbook). Use only quality internet sources (NOT WIKIPEDIA). In addition, you must **use and quote from at least two primary sources**.

Formatting: General MLA requirements including double-spaced; 1 – 1 ¼ margins; last name and page number in the header on each page in MLA style

Citations: MLA formatted in-text (parenthetical citations) as well as an MLA Works Cited Page

You will submit your paper to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) and provide a hardcopy to me.

Class ID:

Password: history

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| *Here is a list of tentative dates you should keep in mind* |
| **Monday, March 16th:**  Topic must be selected by this date. Start working on your research and thesis. |
| **March 16th- March 31st :**  Library time to work on research summaries and works cited page. You must **HAND WRITE** your research summaries. You should have 5-10 pages of these summaries. Summaries will be turned in with your outline and will be worth 50 points. |
| **Thursday, April 2nd:**  In class work on how to do in-text (parenthetical) MLA citations and use of quotes. |
| **Thursday, April 2nd: OUTLINE DUE!**   * Detailed outline, with parenthetical citations, intro paragraph and complete thesis   *(50 points)*   * Tentative Works Cited Page *(20 points)* * Research summaries *(50 points)* |
| **Wednesday April 22nd: FINAL PAPER DUE!!**  Submit to turnitin.com by 1:00 Wednesday and provide me with a hardcopy in class that day. **NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED**  *(100 points for the paper!)* |

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| **Choosing a Topic** |

Your topic can be anything that relates to **United States history** from 1865 to modern times. If you have concerns about your topic, talk to me.

*Where should you start?* Play to your own interests – this is your independent project, and it is an opportunity to make something uniquely yours. Look through the textbook. Browse the table of contents, consult the chronologies at the start of each chapter, or scan the index at the end of the text. Browse through the text to see if anything jumps out at you. Talk with your families – they might have great suggestions from their own interests. If you are desperate and can’t think of any ideas, see me and we can talk about it. Remember that you are writing a **persuasive paper**, not a simple description or narrative.

**POSSIBLE TOPICS / IDEAS FOR THE RESEARCH PAPER**

1. The U.S. [should / should not] have been involved with [ choose one of the following wars ] because….
   * Spanish-American War, WW1, WW2 (not involved only), Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq
2. Imperialism was [good / bad] for the country
3. The New Deal [was / was not] a success
4. The Great Depression was caused by [lack of business regulation / government mistakes]
5. Labor unions were necessary and successful in the long run
6. Reconstruction after the Civil War was a [success / failure]
7. The government [should / should not] be able to limit civil liberties during times of war
8. The [best / worst] president was [ ?? ] because
9. The atomic bombs [were / were not] necessary to end WWII
10. The Japanese internment camps were the greatest Constitutional violation of the 20th century
11. The U.S. [was / was not] to blame for the Cold War with the Soviet Union
12. The Progressive Era was a [success / failure] because…
13. The women’s movement of the 1960s and 1970s was a [success / failure]
14. The counterculture movement of the 1960s was [good / bad] for the country
15. The US could have prevented the Pearl Harbor attack
16. Immigration to the U.S. [should / should not] be restricted – can cover current history but must also include look at past immigration debates, restrictions etc.
17. [Rockefeller, Carnegie, JP Morgan, etc.] [were / were not] “robber barons”
18. Booker T. Washington had a better approach for African Americans to achieve equality in the late 1800s than W.E.B. DuBois. (or vice versa)
19. The most significant technological invention in the U.S. has been [???] because…
20. Women were the main reason the U.S. won WWII
21. Prohibition was a good idea
22. The “Red Scare” of the 1950s [was / was not] justified
23. Malcolm X and the Black Power movement of the 1960s had a better approach to African American civil rights than Martin Luther King, Jr. (or vice versa)
24. The Patriot Act [is / is not necessary] because…
25. The government [should / should not] be creating a national health care system because…
26. The U.S. government [has / has not] stayed true to the principles of the Constitution & Bill of Rights
27. Something that compares the top [2 or 3] [best / worst] Supreme Court decisions
28. Civil rights violations (African Americans, Japanese, Chinese, Native Americans, women)
29. Your own idea??