World History \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Jacobs

**World War II Research Paper**

Format and Guidelines

The goal of this paper is for you to research a topic during World War II and present an argument about the significance/importance of that topic. You will develop a thesis statement, and support your statement with specific evidence. While there are different ways to write a research paper, please follow the format below; if you do not understand something on this sheet, ask questions.

**Topic Selection**

It will be your responsibility to select a topic. Ideally, your topic will be something that interests you. Give your topic some thought and explore different possibilities. You may want to do some preliminary research to see if there is enough accessible information for a paper. On the back of this paper is a list of various topics/ideas to get you started with your research.

The rules regarding topic selection are as follows:

1. Be sure you are thinking of a topic from the eligible areas of study (World War II era).
2. Whatever topic you select must be related to World War II. How did/does your topic influence or in any other way affect people then or in today’s world? **This is not a pro/con or informative/summary history paper**; you want to make an argument about the overall importance, significance, and/or lasting impacts of your topic. Why is it important for people to study/learn about your topic?

**General Requirements**

1. The paper must be in MLA format. If you need help with this let me know. I have handouts that are available or you can look online.
2. The paper must be 3-5 pages in length. (2½ pages is not 3)
3. You must have a minimum of 5 sources. 2 of those sources must be print material. Photocopies with highlights of the print material you use are required. If you use the Internet, NO WIKIPEDIA and no blogs. Use information that has an author. Your sources must be in a bibliography/works cited page.
4. You will submit your papers to turnitin.com; I will also need a hard copy as well.

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Password: history

**In Text/Parenthetical Citations**

Your paper needs to have citations (direct quotes and paraphrasing) within the text. A good rule is one citation per paragraph. Do not give me a paper that simply has your sources in the back; use your sources for quotations and references throughout the body of the paper. For example,

Thomas Jefferson was, “influenced by many Enlightenment thinkers such as Locke, Rousseau, and Montesquieu” (Smith 25).

In your works cited page I will be able find the full reference similar to the following:

Smith, John. *Enlightenment Influences on the American Revolution.* New York: Pendant Books, 1998. 20-32. Print.

There are several different ways to incorporate citations in your paper. We will work on them in class. There will be deadlines for your thesis and outline, as well as rough draft (optional) if you choose. If your writing skills are not as strong as you would like, ask for help.

**Outline Due: Thursday, May 7th**

**FINAL PAPER DUE DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 21ST!**

**General topics associated with World War II**

Pearl Harbor

Division of Germany

Nazi Party

SS

D-Day

Stalingrad

Famous Battles

Start of the Cold War/Nuclear Age

Atomic Bomb

Country Profile

Asia

Africa

Middle East

World Leaders/Dictators of Era

War in the Atlantic

War in the Pacific

Concentration Camps

Holocaust

Refugees

Native Americans

Women

Weapons

Nuremberg Trials

Aftermath of War

Berlin Wall/Division

Bataan Death March

Japanese Atrocities

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Poor**  **(F)** | **Below Average (D)** | **Average**  **(C)** | **Above Average (B)** | **Excellent**  **(A)** |
| Format/Requirements | The handout was not followed | Little to no effort to follow the handout | Some effort to follow handout; some minor mistakes | Handout was followed with a one or two minor mistakes | Handout was followed; no mistakes |
| Mechanics/Grammar | Major mechanical and grammatical errors; paper is hard to read | Spelling and grammar take away from the content of the paper; no evidence of proofreading | Some grammatical errors, but the content is understandable | Few grammatical errors; obvious effort was put into a clean paper | Little to no problem with grammar. Proofreading was used and content is supported by a clean paper |
| Use of Citations | No citations | One or two citations used with format errors | Effort to use citations; minor errors, more were needed | Good use of citations with correct format | Excellent use of citations that increase the effectiveness of the paper |
| Content | No original thought is evident. Material was copied from the source. | Little thought put into researching; content was not clear. | Effort was evident; some mistakes, improvement needed | Content was effective and showed original thought and interpretation | The content presented was well researched and supported with citations; the paper shows a well-organized presentation of research |