

National History Day at Reagan

US History

The NHD project should be introduced to students only after they are able to differentiate between primary and secondary sources, have been instructed on how to conduct an OPVL and ideally after having written a DBQ essay.

Suggested steps to final NHD projects:

1. Formally introduce to project (mid-September?)
2. Send home letter to parents informing them of project (or put in syllabus??)
3. Introduce annual theme (2015 theme- Leadership and Legacy in History)
4. Define theme
5. **Choose a broad area of historical interest that fits within theme**
 - *Handout in TH available*** “**Topic Selection Worksheet**”
6. Have students do a broad web search on topic (can use Wikipedia, whatever, and write a one page summary of interesting facts regarding their topic).
7. Introduce method of organizing research (notecards, notebook, etc)
8. Lesson on citation formats, bibliographies, and footnotes (Chicago/ Turabian)
9. Lesson on using the internet for effective research
 - MPS student toolbox
 - WI Historical Society website
 - Google scholar
 - Google books
 - National Archives
 - ????
10. Group work or individual??? Introduce the idea that this project can be done in groups or individually. Allow students time to discuss their ideas and decide how they would like to proceed.
 - *Handout in TH available*** “**Group or Individual Project**”
 - Have groups complete “**Group Contract**”- no more than 5 students per group

11. Practice using the internet for effective research
 - Locate 3 primary sources
 - Locate 3 secondary sources
12. For each of the above sources, complete an analysis and ID a minimum of three historically significant/ interesting facts
13. **Create a NHD style bibliography (separated between primary and secondary sources) with the six above sources using a proper citation style**
14. **ANNOTATE the BIBLIOGRAPHIES!!**
 - Each annotation should be 1-3 full sentences and should describe how the student used each source in their entry.
 - *Mini-Lesson: Bibliography and Annotation available in TH***
15. Discuss how to “narrow a topic”
 - *Using Research Questions lesson available in TH****
16. **Conduct additional research**
 - *Handout in TH available** “Research Strategy Worksheet”*
 - **A minimum of 3 more primary sources**
 - **A minimum of 3 more secondary sources**
Research after this is on-going!!
17. For each of the above sources, complete an analysis and ID three interesting/ historically significant facts
18. Add sources to bibliography
19. **Develop a THESIS statement that incorporates the theme *Leadership and Legacy in History*. The thesis can be two sentences.**
 - *Mini-Lesson available in TH: The Ever-Changing Thesis Statement*
 - *Handout in TH available** “Testing Your Thesis”*
 - The thesis should: 1. Address a specific topic, 2. Express an opinion, and 3. Evaluate significance
20. ***Visit from WI Historical Society to discuss project AND work one-on-one with students regarding thesis statements?***

21. Historical Context Assignment

- *Mini-Lesson available in TH******
- *Handout available in TH** “Historical Context”*
- How does your topic fit in the time/ place of your topic? What is the historical context? Write one page describing your topic and how it connects to other events at the local, state, national and world level.

22. EXTRA CREDIT!! Contact a minimum of THREE “experts” in the field and conduct some interviews!

23. *Fieldtrip to archives at UWM or the WI Historical Society????*

24. Select a presentation category:

- **Paper (only individual)**
- **Documentary (individual or group)**
- **Performance (individual or group)**
- **Website (individual or group)**
- **Exhibit (individual or group)**
- *Give each project the category rules for their presentation style!!*
- *Handout available in TH** “Completing the Entry Checklist”*

25. Develop a final plan to complete the project!!

26. Construct an entry

27. Review and finalize **Annotated Bibliographies**

28. Create a **TITLE PAGE**

- Must have the following items (nothing more!!!): 1. Title of entry, 2. Student names, 3. Senior Division, and 4. Category (ie. “individual documentary”).

29. Write **PROCESS PAPER (one per group, papers exempt)!!**

- 500 words or less (1-2 pages, 4 paragraphs)
- Must include the following: 1. How did you choose your topic?, 2. How did you conduct your research?, 3. How did you select your presentation category?, and 4. How does your project relate to the NHD theme?

30. *Present project at school-wide History Fair!*

- Successful completion and presentation of project can exempt student from final exams?? How should this project impact grade?

31. Participation in regional event at UW-Milwaukee (March)- carrot?

32. Participation in state event in Madison, WI (May)- carrot?

33. Participation in national event in College Park, Maryland (June)