**National History Day – Paper Project Rubric**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Presentation Concept | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Thesis Presence | Thesis is not present in the paper | Thesis is present, but is not clearly maintained throughout most of the paper | Thesis is present and is clearly maintained throughout most of the paper | Thesis is present and clearly maintained throughout the entire paper |
| Historical Accuracy | Historical accuracy is seriously flawed. Includes two or more major errors of fact or misinterpretations | Historical accuracy is in question. Includes one major or four or more minor errors of fact or misinterpretation | Historical accuracy is strong. Contains no major errors of fact or misinterpretations | Historical accuracy is exceptionally strong. There are no evident errors of fact or misinterpretations |
| Balanced  Presentation | Presentation lacks balance, presents only one point of view of the topic | Presentation lacks balance, gives little attention to alternative views of the topic | Presentation is balanced, examines thoroughly other views of the topic | Presentation is exceptionally balanced, examines and presents multiple points of view  of the topic |
| Paper Organization | The paper is unorganized | The paper shows some organization, but those choices are not always logical | The paper’s organization is almost always logical and easy to follow | The paper’s organization is always logical and easy to follow |
| Presentation Format | Paper conveys the thesis in a very basic way. The paper does not establish a unified and fluent argument but instead appears segmented or disjointed. The student’s voice is not clear throughout the paper. | Paper conveys the thesis in creative or original ways. The paper begins to establish a unified and fluent argument although at times it may appear segmented or disjointed. The student’s voice is present in the paper. | Paper conveys the thesis in creative and original ways. The paper establishes a unified and fluent argument and rarely appears segmented or disjointed. The student’s voice is clear in the paper. | Paper conveys the thesis in extremely original and creative ways. The paper clearly establishes a unified and fluent argument. The student’s voice is strong and clear throughout the paper. |
| Rules Compliance | Violates a major rule: 1. Length (1500-2500 words) 2. Attributes all sources with in text citation, footnotes, or endnotes | Violates a major rule but clear methods of correction are available | Complies with all major rules but may have a minor infraction | No major or minor infractions |
| Totals  Comments |  |  |  |  |

Random Lake Social Studies Department, Revised 2008.