**CHC2DR Historical Investigation**

History as an intellectual discipline and process consists of two main functions: fact gathering and fact interpretation. You will have the opportunity in this assignment to carry out the same skills and functions that the professional historian undertakes. Your historical investigation for this course will equal 7% of your final grade.

**Objectives:**

* To develop research as well as writing skills, using the various approaches of the historian
* To develop critical thinking and analysis of the particular issues;
* To probe an issue in greater depth than possible in class

There are various steps to this Investigation. The first step is to realize that this is not in fact an essay. The format for this Investigation is very different and although there is an element of persuasive writing, the focus of this assignment is more about fact interpretation and engaging in historiography (the various ways of looking at the past). Because of this, multiple students can do the same topic because you will inevitably lead to different conclusions based on similar source.

The Historical Investigation is sectioned into the following:

**Section 1: Identification and evaluation of sources**

This section requires students to analyze in detail **TWO** of the sources that they will use in their investigation. The sources can be either primary or secondary sources. In this section, students must:

* Clearly state the question they have chosen to investigate (stated as a question)
* Include a brief explanation of the nature of the two sources they have selected for analysis, including an explanation of their relevance to the investigation
* Analyze two sources in detail; with reference to their origins, purpose, and content, the student should analyze the value and limitations of the two sources in relation to the investigation of their question.

**Section 2: Investigation**

This section of the HI task consists of the actual investigation. The historical investigation task provides scope for a wide variety of different types of investigation, however for this course, the HI will consist of a:

* Investigation of a historical topic or theme using a variety of written or a variety of written and non-written sources

The investigation must be clearly and effectively organized. While there is no prescribed format for how this section must be structured, it must contain critical analysis that is focused clearly on the research question being investigated. This can be considered the essay section of the assignment.

**Section 3: Conclusion**

This section of the HI requires students to reflect on what undertaking their investigation highlighted to them and provide a conclusion that the student draws from their analysis. This section also requires students to reflect on their investigation, regardless of the conclusion what has been learned in regards to the importance of the investigation in its historical context (why is this an important part of history). To repeat, the research question is to be answered in this section.

**Bibliography**

A bibliography and clear referencing of 5 sources MUST be included with every investigation, but these are not included in the overall words count. All referencing will be done in Chicago Manual Style (more on that later). The 5 sources is an absolute minimum.

Your research will lead to a 1500-1700 word historical investigation that will be produced from 5 academic sources. You will include a title page and a works cited/bibliography page that will be properly referenced using Chicago Manual Style (remember to easy easybib). The relative length of each section is provided below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Section* | *Suggested Word Allocation* | *Associated Assessment Criteria* | *Value to this assignment* |
| 1. **Identification and evaluation of sources** | **400** | \*see specific handouts | **25%** |
| 1. **Investigation** | **700-900** |  | **50%** |
| 1. **Conclusion** | **200** |  | **10%** |
| **Bibliography** | **Not Applicable** |  | **15%** |
| **Total Maximum Word Limit** | **1500 words** |  |  |

**Specific Task Components**

1. ***Topic Selection***: Please ensure that the topic you select is one that seems interesting and worthy of detailed study. Remember, you will be committing a great deal of time to this assignment and, as such, you should enjoy some of the work. Please be advised that all topics must be defended and approved. Topic selections must be submitted for approval on **Thursday May 31, 2018**

2. ***Topic Question Confirmation and Resource List***: All topic questions must be formulated, defended and approved in advance. As well, a list of **3** potential sources must be produced and presented in proper bibliographic format. Please see the Chicago Style guide on the website for the correct format. Topic questions and resource lists will be defended and submitted by the end of class on **Friday June 1, 2018**

3. ***Working Resource List***: You are required to submit a list of **5** sources, presented in proper bibliographic format. **One** of the 5 sources must be **annotated**. All annotations should identify the **origin**, **purpose**, **content**, **value** and **limitations** of each source. All working resource lists must be submitted for review on **Tuesday June 5, 2018.**

4. ***Analytical Review***: You are required to produce a brief, **point form summary** of your analysis in relation to your topic question. As well, you are required to identify the **two** sources you have selected to evaluate. Come prepared to explain your choices. All reviews will be submitted on **Thursday June 7, 2018**.

5. ***Final Draft Submission***: You are required to submit a final copy of your completed and revised Historical Investigation for Teacher Evaluation. All drafts of the Historical Investigation are due on **Tuesday June 12, 2018.**

**Step One: Topic Selection**

The most important aspect of your investigation is that you choose a topic that is interesting and worthy of a detailed study (and a topic that actually has enough information available to you to even study in the first place). The following are possible topics for investigation that cover that cover roughly from 1950-1980’s. This is not an exhaustive list, you are allowed to do other topics, set during this time period. Have a look through our textbooks to see what interests you.

1. Rocket Richard Riot
2. Avro Arrow
3. Suez Crisis
4. Canada’s New National Flag
5. Vietnam (from Canadian perspective)
6. October Crisis 1970
7. Status of Women 1950’s and onward
8. Status of Labour (workers’ rights)
9. The Trudeau Era (Just Society?)
10. Indigenous Populations and Canada
11. Canada and US relations post WWII
12. The Massey Report