

Writing research papers for World History II

You will pick from one of the topics below and write a research paper that supports your point of view

1. Were the Crusades caused primarily by religious devotion or by the desire for political and economic gain?
2. What were the achievements of the African empires, Kingdoms, and cities before the arrival of the Europeans?
3. What was the level of cultural and technological development of the Aztecs and Inca Empires?
4. Was the Renaissance, with its unique advances, a period distinct from the Middle ages or was it a continuation of the Middle Ages?
5. What were the isolationist policies of the Ming government and how did they affect Ming China?
6. Should the European explorers, conquistadors, and settlers from the Age of Exploration still be glorified and celebrated in modern times?

You will picking a side and argue your topic or thoroughly explain your topic. This depends on the topic you picked from the above categories.

Due Date - April 21 before 7:50 am - Must be given with a Hard Copy, Shared with permission to edit, and Submitted on turnitin.com

Page length – 2 to 3 pages (2 full pages going onto a 3rd - make the paper 2.5 pages because what you think is 2 pages, my computer might say differently)

Typed – Formal papers must be typed in a 12-point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and left-justified.

Proofreading – Prior to submission, papers should be proofread carefully for grammar, spelling, and typographical errors. Papers with excessive mechanical errors are likely to be handed back unread and ungraded or partially read and failed.

Sources – You must use 4 different sources - must use 3 different documents from the DBQ which counts as 1 sources along with 3 others - do not use wikipedia as a source

You need a cover page and a work cited page with proper citations - There should be no heading on your first page after the cover page

A strong research paper involves a process of establishing a claim and then proving it with logical reasoning, examples, and research. The **thesis statement** is a guideline, unifying elements, for every research paper.

1. **Start simply.** Write your **thesis statement** in a single sentence
2. **Answer a question.** A simple guide to an effective thesis statement is an answer to a question: What am I trying to prove?
3. **Narrow your topic.** Focus your thesis statement on a limited aspect. For example, narrow a topic from “films” to “action films” to “Avatar” to the “merits and flaws of Avatar.”
4. **Be Flexible.** If your research indicates other, stronger possibilities, it is acceptable to change your thesis statement.
5. **Verify your thesis statement.** Obtain your my approval of topics and thesis statements
6. **Do not “telegraph” a thesis.** Avoid using a first-person phrase such as “I am going to prove” or “I hope to show.” An instructor knows this is your paper, and your point should be apparent through a strong thesis “statement” followed by supporting evidence”

Bibliography and citing sources

For a book:

Last name, first name. **Title**. Place published: Publisher, year.
Broad, William J. **The Oracle** New York: Penguin Press, 2006.

For a newspaper:

Last name, first name. "Article Title" in Newspaper name, published in Day Month Year, on page #.

For a magazine:

Last name, first name. "Article Title" in Magazine name, Vol. #, Week of Day Month Year. Place Published.

For a Website:

Last name of creator, first name. URL: <http://www.websitename.com/directory/subdir/page.html> Date of last revision: day month year. Date of Inquiry: day month year.

Websites for thesis and outlines

<http://www.austincc.edu/tmthomas/sample%20outline%201.htm>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/>

<http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/tips/thesis/>

<http://writingcenter.waldenu.edu/318.htm>