



Institution Course

HIS-104-399-Modern American History-35958.202102 (35958.202102)

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Announcements

Welcome!

Posted on: Sunday, January 24, 2021 10:47:30 AM EST

Hello everyone,

Welcome to HIS 104, Modern American History! My name is Professor Montella and for the next several weeks I will be working alongside all of you to help you successfully complete this course.

This class is a REALTIME ONLINE course, which means we will be meeting via Zoom during the scheduled class times (Thursdays 4-7pm). I will be available to you outside of those hours as well so please feel free to reach out with any and all questions or concerns you may have. We will discuss the specifics of this course in further detail this Thursday at our first class meeting, but for now I want you to know a few important details:

- We will be meeting on Thursdays from 4-7 pm, starting January 28th. I will send out a Zoom link a day or two in advance of the class dates.
- We will be using a free online textbook for this course. No purchase is necessary. Again, I will discuss this at our first class meeting.
- I will open up the course a day early (this Wednesday) so you can browse the course information and content.
- Read the course [syllabus](#). It contains important information pertaining to this course.
- PLEASE REACH OUT WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS. This is the most important thing I need you to understand.

Thank you,

Professor Montella

montelf@sunysuffolk.edu

MLRC, RM 119

631-548-2569

Posted by: Fabio Montella
Posted to: HIS-104-399-Modern American History-35958.202102 35958.202102

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- Homework
- Midterm Exam
- Research Paper
- Blackboard Tools
- Blackboard Collaborate

Week 3

- Build Content
- Assessments
- Tools
- Partner Content

Week 3

Topics covered

- Capital & Labor
- The West
- Formulating viable research topics/questions

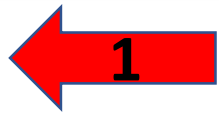
Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this module you will be able to:

- Examine how capital and labor became paramount leading up to the end of the 19th century, and how their proliferation impacted individuals and society as a whole.
- Identify America's reasons for westward expansion and evaluate the impact of these actions.
- Formulate research topics/questions that are viable and appropriate for historical research.

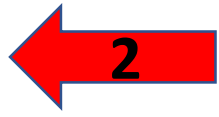
Readings & PowerPoint Slides

This folder contains your textbook readings and supplemental PowerPoint slides.



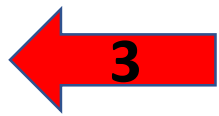
Additional Resources

This folder contains additional resource (videos, docs, etc) that supplement this textbook readings.



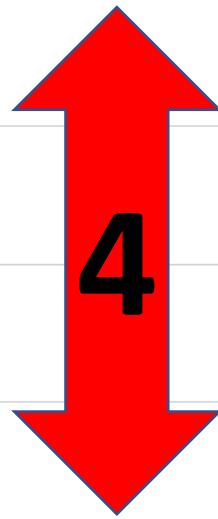
Discussion boards

This folder contains your discussion board question/s for the week. Please click on the links provided.



Understanding scholarly research -- Step 2

This folder contains content for one of the primary steps of the research process: formulating a research topic or question.



Discussion boards



Discussion board: Week 3

Capital & Labor:

“And although at first glance the Populist movement appears to have been a failure ---- in terms of lasting impact, the Populist Party proved the most significant third-party movement in American history.”

Consider this quote from *The American Yawp* textbook. What is meant by the "lasting impact" of the Populist Party. How was that impact felt in the coming decades, or even today?

Please express your opinions and thoughts in a respectful manner. Be respectful of others in this discussion and all other discussions moving forward. Provide constructive responses to at least one other classmate's posting. Please post your initial response at least two days before the end of the discussion so that all of you will have time to comment on each other's posts before the discussion ends.



Discussion board: Week 3

The West

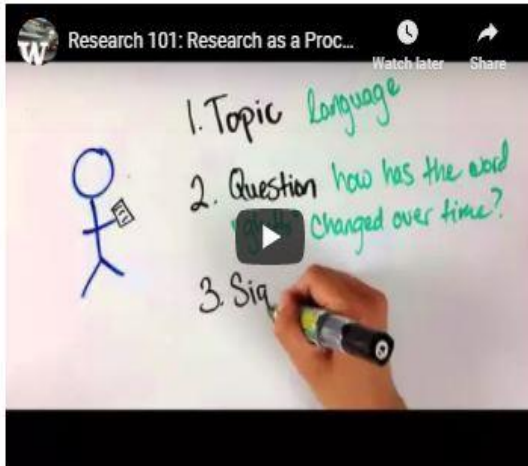
During the period of western expansion, the idea of cowboys and life on the western frontier was both embellished and glorified. Novels such as Owen Wister's *The Virginian* "established the character of the cowboy as a gritty stoic with a rough exterior but the courage and heroism needed to rescue people from train robbers, Indians, and cattle rustlers." -- *American Yawp*

How did the promotion and of the western cowboy help cultivate the concept of American masculinity during this period? How did it further alienate the possibility of coexistence with American Indians? Did the persona of the cowboy make western expansion seem more virtuous? How so?

Please express your opinions and thoughts in a respectful manner. Be respectful of others in this discussion and all other discussions moving forward. Provide constructive responses to at least one other classmate's posting. Please post your initial response at least two days before the end of the discussion so that all of you will have time to comment on each other's posts before the discussion ends.

Understanding scholarly research -- Step 2

Getting started A+



Before you begin thinking about your research and how to possibly approach it, view this introductory video from the University of Washington Libraries.

What will you research and write about? A+



You can't start research without first having a topic and question in mind. Please view this video from Northern Kentucky University's Steely Library on how to create a research question.

Formulating Research Topics and Questions

All research is based on questions. What, when, where, who and why are all questions that will determine our informational needs. Research will provide us with answers, but it may also produce new questions. These questions often arise when we become curious or when our research leads to disconnects (missing information). Sometimes, we simply find a topic to be of interest and we wish to pursue it further. Our need to fill in the blanks and fulfill our curiosities is what allows for the continuation and expansion of knowledge.

After viewing the instructional videos provided, develop a research question that is both viable and appropriate for a 3-5-page research paper. Your question or topic must pertain to this week's chapter readings (*Capital & Labor* and *The West*) and must meet the criteria discussed in the videos.

Tell me what information in the chapter readings led you to formulate your topic or question. How is your topic or question viable and appropriate for a 3-5-page research paper? Please reference the chapters and videos.

PLEASE DO NOT RESEARCH YOUR TOPIC OR QUESTION! You are only formulating a research question at this point. The purpose of this assignment is to become proficient in developing research topics and questions for academic research.

NOTE: You are not required to use your topic or question for the actual research paper assignment (due May 8), but you must apply the same principles when you begin formulating those topics and questions.

Please submit your assignment as a 2-3 paragraph Word Document.