

CONNECT History Paper

EXAMINING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT

America's journey is complex and ever changing. In this assignment you will assess the history of America from this semester by connecting and comparing an issue confronting Americans today with a historical event or trend from the past. You will engage fully with the historical issues and those surrounding the current event that you have chosen by exploring relating issues from the past. You must use specific examples from the historical event and cite your sources. For example, you may choose to trace the issue of race relations in America's past with issues today by connecting *The Boston Massacre* to the events in Ferguson, MI in 2014. Your paper should 1500 words, double spaced, cited and include a bibliography.

Connect specific historical events or person from our American history in some possible themes for topics include but are not limited to:

- Race relations in America
- Immigration issues in America
- Religious Freedom in America
- Presidential Power
- Constitutional interpretations

CONNECT History Rubric^[1]

	Masterful	Skilled	Able	Developing	Novice
Grade	A	B	C	D	F
Thesis and Focus	Engaging and fully developed thesis focused on historical study applicable to course	Competent and well developed thesis applicable to coursework	Mostly intelligible ideas; thesis is weak, unclear or too broad	Mostly simplistic and unfocused ideas; little use of historical context	Ideas are extremely simplistic and show signs of confusion
Supporting Details	Consistent evidence from historical study and current scholarship	Ideas supported sufficiently with sound evidence from historical and current sources	Main points and ideas are only indirectly supported	Insufficient evidence from historical research	Lack of support for main points and frequent generalizations

Structure	Paragraphs are well developed and appropriately divided. Paper is well within 5-7 page range	Competent organization without sophistication. Paper is within 5-7 page range	Barely organized paragraphs around thesis, weak transitions and fewer than 5 pages	Unsuccessful organization, simple paragraphs and fewer than 5 pages	No organization evident and the paper is confusing. Fewer than 5 pages
Tone and Presentation of Historical Content	Clear presentation with tone and point-of-view appropriate for assignment	Effective presentation with tone and point-of-view satisfactory	Little or inconsistent presentation and tone not well developed	Shows little or no awareness of appropriate tone	Tone and point-of-view not appropriate for the parameters of the assignment
Grammar	Each sentence structured effectively and powerfully.	Effective and varied sentences. Very few grammatical errors	Tedious sentence patterns. Recurring grammatical errors	Sentences show errors of structure. Grammatical errors	Simple sentences used and many grammatical errors
Vocabulary and Word Usage	Exceptional vocabulary range	Good vocabulary	Ordinary Vocabulary	Errors in usage	Extremely limited vocabulary

^[2] Based on the College Level Writing Rubric, Bakersfield College
http://www2.bakersfieldcollege.edu/jfulks/basicSkills%20course_coding/Example_Writing_Rubric.pdf
SLO – Hist 111 #2