

Modern American History Honors
Summer Project Guidelines
2015-2016 School Year
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Paper Guidelines:

Choose a topic that is currently an issue in the United States today and read one book about that topic. Then write a paper about your topic and the book you read. Please email your topic to Mr. Scollick at bscollick@berkscatholic.org for approval **before June 19th**.

This paper must be at least 5 pages in length (not including charts, graphs or clip-art). Writing must fill the entire page (to avoid losing points for length you may want to go onto the 6th page). These pages are to have standard 1" margins and be typed in 12 pt font Time New Roman.

The paper will be made up of 4 sections (Introduction, Summary, Analysis and Conclusion). The Introduction and Conclusion sections are not to exceed a page each in length. Questions to be answered in each section are listed below:

- Introduction** (20pts): Why did you choose this topic? Why did you choose to read this particular work?
- Summary** (40pts): What makes this author an authority on this topic? What are the author's main points? How does the author believe that this topic will impact the world?
- Analysis** (40pts): How did the book you read impact your views on this issue? Where do you think the author could expand on his/her conclusions?
- Conclusion** (20pts): Given what you now know about this topic, what steps would you take to bring awareness to this issue? As a society where do we start looking for solutions to the problem(s) discussed in the book? Did you include an outside source?
- Grammar** (20pts): Your paper should follow appropriate grammar specifics.
- Accuracy** (30pts): Your descriptions of the event, individual, political movement, or concept should maintain academic accuracy and integrity even when identifying your thesis statement.
- Creativity** (20pts): Be creative in your approach and writing style. A boring paper with no effort will receive a less exciting grade. Include at least **TWO** charts or graphs to support your conclusions!!
- Cover Page** (10pts): You must have a separate cover page with your name, course name, date, and title of your paper. This will not be repeated in a header or footer form on the pages of your paper or an automatic deduction of 10 points will occur.

I would prefer that you base the majority of your conclusions on the material provided in the book and your reactions to it, but you must also include at least **ONE** additional resource to back up points made in your conclusion. **All resources used must be listed in a Works Cited Page and documented parenthetically using MLA Style formatting.**

Final copies of the research papers are due in class on the **first day of school**. *If papers are not submitted by the due date you will not be allowed to continue in the honors section of this course.* Please make sure you are working diligently and do not fall behind.