

Outline of a Historical Research Project

After you have selected a topic, gather primary and secondary sources, and analyzed your data, you must create your final presentation. Whether you choose to present your project as a paper, exhibit, performance, documentary, or website, you should make certain that it consists of the following parts.

Introduction

Thesis

A concise statement of your argument.

The evidence and analysis should “prove” the thesis.

The thesis should unify the entire presentation.

Main Points

Evidence

Analysis

Why the topic is important in history

Clearly relates topic to the theme

Time and word limits mean you must be selective in choosing what evidence to present. Make certain that everything you include relates clearly to your thesis and helps you to make your case.

Conclusion

Required Written Materials

Title page

Process Paper (*not required for Paper category entries*)

Annotated Bibliography

Remember: Your project must be able to stand on its own. You won't always be there to translate, explain, or give more information. Be certain to include all of the critical pieces of information in your project itself—don't “save” them for the interview; make them part of the project!