ARTICLE REVIEW GUIDE

Select an article from National Geographic Magazine or Smithsonian Magazine that deals with a topic relevant to this course. Photocopy the article and attach the copy to your review. Students in “U.S. History, Formative Period” may also use articles from American Heritage Magazine.

The review must be 4-5 typed pages, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins on all sides, and page numbers in the upper right corner.

Attach a cover sheet with the following information in the lower right corner:

- your name
- the course number & section number
- the title of the article
- the author’s name
- the name and issue date of the magazine
- page numbers of the article

Be sure to use proper punctuation style for the titles of the article and publication.

DO NOT PUT THE REVIEW IN A FOLDER OR BINDER. STAPLE THE REVIEW AND ARTICLE TOGETHER.

GRADE COMPONENTS:

- Content and Organization: 80%
- Grammar and Spelling: 20%
  - 0 – 1 error = 0 deduction
  - 2 – 3 “ ” = 1-point deduction
  - 4 – 5 “ ” = 2-point deduction, etc.

Students may bring a draft for preview during Dr. Taylor’s office hours.

The Review must include the following (this gives you a ready-made outline):

1. Introduction and thesis: In the opening paragraph state the topic of the article and tell how it relates to this course. Also state the thesis of the article (summarize the author’s primary point/conclusions).

2. Main points: Describe two or three major points and tell how the author supports/illustrates each point. Write separate paragraphs for each main point (the review is basically another type of essay). For example, in an article about Alexander the Great, the author may believe that three factors contributed to Alexander’s success as emperor: his personal background, the quality of men he selected for advisors, and the economic growth during his rule.
   a. Alexander succeeded as emperor because of his personal background, especially his military service under command of his father Philip of Macedonia. Cite facts the author uses to support this claim.
   b. Alexander was also careful in his selection of advisors. Cite examples.
   c. Finally, Alexander was a great emperor because most people in his domain enjoyed economic security. Cite evidence the author uses to prove this point.

3. Evaluate the visual materials in the article. Was the selection of photos, maps, etc., appropriate, adequate, inadequate? Should the author have included a map? Did the visual material help you better understand the article?

4. Conclusion: Your personal evaluation. Was the article well-written? Did it keep your interest? Did the author cover the topic as well as you expected? Would you recommend this article to another student of this course — why or why not?

5. QUOTATIONS: Do not include more than two brief quotations from the article in the review. This is to be your writing! Cite the page number of a quote in ( ). Copying phrases from the article without appropriate citations is PLAGIARISM and will result in a grade of “0” for the assignment.