

HISTORY NEWS JOURNAL

GUIDE & STYLE SHEET

- I. **Purpose:** The “History News Journal” assignment helps students recognize how current events/topics relate to the historical developments studied in this course.
- II. **Project:** Collect items that relate to some aspect of this course from printed newspapers (no internet copy, etc.). The number of items is specified in the syllabus. The item may be a news article, advertisement, letter to the editor, etc. For each item write a brief paragraph of 3 to 5 sentences. State concisely:
- the focus of the item (one sentence should suffice—don’t “review” the item)
 - how it relates to some aspect of the material covered **in this course**.
- ▶ Items do not have to correspond to course chronology. You may submit items that relate to a time period, event, etc., other than what we are currently studying—if you are knowledgeable enough to find one and understand it.
- ▶ Get to the point – do not ramble.
- ▶ Newspaper items do not have to be—and probably will not be—about this course. For example, an item about a bank could relate to the development of banking as studied in this course; a story about the current oppression of women in an African nation could relate to the oppression of women studied in this course; a story about a natural disaster might relate to a similar event studied in this course.
- III. **Organization:** Number each item and write a corresponding paragraph typed on standard **white paper** using **black ink**.
- ▶ Use **1-inch margins on all sides**.
- ▶ At the **top right** of the sheet **type** your name, the course, and the section number.
- ▶ Write several paragraphs on a page, each numbered to correspond to a newspaper item. Use **double-line spacing in the paragraphs & triple-space between paragraphs**.
- ▶ **Staple items**, in order, **to the back** of your text.
- ▶ Do not put material in a folder or binder; simply staple it together. I will not accept unstapled or hand-written work.
- IV. **Evaluation:**
- ▶ Each item is worth 15 points:
- 12 points for content/connection to the course material – explain cogently and concisely how the item is relevant to the content of this particular course.
 - 3 points for grammar, spelling, and style (appropriate margins, indentions, etc.). *Refer to comments on grammar and spelling in “Writing An Effective History Essay”.*
- ▶ Neatness is important. Do not turn in work that looks as if it had been done by a second-grader.
- V. **Submission Schedule** **See Syllabus and Reading Schedule for number of items and due dates.**