

U.S. HISTORY
SPRING SEMESTER RESEARCH PROJECT
CREATING A DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION (DBQ)
2011- DEBATE AND DIPLOMACY

Requirements:

1. A well focused question on a specific topic or issue in 20th century U.S. History related to Debate and Diplomacy.
2. A set of at least 8 primary source documents which support the question.
3. A well written and organized essay that includes a majority of the documents and outside information, that is historically accurate.
4. A Works Cited page identifying the source for each document used.

Creating Your DBQ:

1. Choose a **specific issue or event** that will be the subject of your question connected to the theme of Debate and Diplomacy in 20th Century U.S. History.
2. Craft a **well-focused question** (*Samples of questions are available in your text and will be available in class for you to review*). You are to submit your question for approval.
3. Conduct your **research**, using but not limited to the sites listed below, to **locate primary source documents** that would be appropriate to use with your question. The final project must include a minimum of 8 documents. Be sure that your documents fit in well with the topic of the question!
Each DBQ must include at least one chart/graph, one photograph, and four written documents.

Remember, primary source documents may take a variety of forms, including, but not limited to:

Maps
Written documents
Journals
Political cartoons
Government documents

4. **Analyze each document** to be sure that they are appropriate to your question and to extract the information or ideas that would be necessary to include in a response to the question.

To assist you in you analysis, use the [Document Analysis Worksheets](http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/index.html) from the National Archives-<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/index.html>

5. Submit your DBQ for approval prior to writing your essay.
6. Write your essay. 12pt. font, Times New Roman, one-inch margins, double spaced, not bold or italicized. Students will be graded using the 11th grade essay rubric. Be sure to include at least half of your DBQ sources and outside information.
7. Compile your information DBQ, essay and works cited page in the following format:
 - a. Question
 - b. Documents A-J:
 - c. Typed Essay
 - d. Works Cited Page (using the Chicago format)

Sources for your Research:

1. [The Avalon Project: Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy \(Yale University\)](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm)
(<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm>)
2. [National Archives: ARC](http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/) (<http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/>)
3. [National Archives: Presidential Document Research](http://www.archives.gov/presidential-libraries/) -
<http://www.archives.gov/presidential-libraries/>
4. [Library of Congress: American Memory Collection](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/)
(<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/>)
5. [U.S. Congressional Documents \(Library of Congress\)](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html) -
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>
6. [Documents for the Study of American History: University of Kansas](http://www.ku.edu/carrie/docs/amdocs_index.html)
(http://www.ku.edu/carrie/docs/amdocs_index.html)
7. [Historic Documents: University of Michigan](http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/fedhis.html)
(<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/fedhis.html>)
8. [Historic Documents: University of Oklahoma](http://www.law.ou.edu/hist/)
(<http://www.law.ou.edu/hist/>)
9. [Archival Research: Smithsonian Institution](http://www.siris.si.edu/)
(<http://www.siris.si.edu/>)