Communication Skills Assignment

Hist 1301

Assignment Description

Students will develop a PowerPoint presentation through the use and interpretation of primary sources that accurately depicts one of the following---- Colonial America, Revolutionary America, the Federalist Era, the Jacksonian Era, Manifest Destiny, and the Civil War. The PowerPoint should examine the major happenings of the Era selected and the impact that this era had on future events in the United States. Students may use scholarly and authoritative online sources as a supplement but most of the information for the project should be gleaned from the textbook. Students should review the information found above this assignment regarding Primary Sources before beginning this project. I recommend that you watch the PowerPoint crash course found in Canvas before beginning the assignment. If you have questions, I advise you to attend one of the office hour sessions so that we can chat.

Assignment Requirements

1. Presentation must be historically accurate.
2. Students must demonstrate the ability to interpret and effectively cite primary sources. Students will use at least one primary source which relates to era of history chosen by the student. The primary source should be presented in the PowerPoint presentation in such a way as to contribute to the student's explanation of the era of history he/she is describing. Thus, simply copying a primary source into the presentation is not enough—the primary source must be interpreted to tell the historical story at hand. Review the links on primary sources found in Canvas for more information on interpreting primary sources.
3. Slide content must revolve around details that adequately explain the overall theme and impact of the historical era under study by the student.
4. All presentations must begin with a title slide.
5. All slides must have a title
6. Presentation must present information in a clear and organized manner. Font should be large enough to be seen clearly. Use multiple slides for extended information. Be sure to use the word continue in titles of slides pertaining to the same information.

7. All pictures, graphs, and information outside the textbook must be properly cited. Pictures, graphs, maps, etc. should be accompanied with text in order to explain how this material contributes to the theme of the presentation.

8. All presentations must have a citation slide that cites information according to Chicago Style format. The primary source and at least two other sources should be cited here. Any online sources should be cited here as well. Avoid grammatical errors. The best way to do this is proof your work a minimum of three times before submitting.

9. The presentation must be a minimum of fifteen slides, not including the title slide and the citation slide, and a maximum of twenty slides.

Assignment Rubric

Historical Accuracy of the Presentation—20 pts (40% of the grade)

1. Does the presentation accurately analyze one of the historical eras listed above?

2. Does the paper use concrete examples to solidify the historical analysis?

Visual Quality of the Presentation—15 pts (30% of the grade)

1. Is the presentation of high visual quality?

2. Is each slide legible and does each slide present the material in such a way that the material is easily understood?

3. Does each slide contain a title?

4. Is the font size large enough to be easily read and small enough to allow for in-depth analysis on each slide?
Use of Primary Source—10 pts (20% percent of the grade)

1. Does the paper use primary sources which are authentic and clearly presented within the slides of the presentation?

2. Does the presentation contain a citation slide which clearly lists the primary source? Please note students are responsible for creating citation slides which clearly demonstrate the presence of a primary source.

Grammar—5 pts (10% percent of the grade)

1. Is proper grammar used throughout the presentation?

2. Are sentences constructed in such a way as to present the material clearly?