

American Culture Final Project

YOUR ASSIGNMENT: Choose a pop culture topic that we have NOT covered in class this year & design a presentation to share with the class. We will share the finished presentations on one of our Google Meets.

- Come up with some ideas - What interests you? What kind of entertainment do you wish we'd studied about or studied more about this year?
- Once you pick your topic, share your idea with Ms. Shen & get the ok to do that as your topic.
- Research the topic & start taking notes on it.
- Prepare a presentation about your topic (Google Slides?)
- Upload your presentation to Google Classroom for feedback from Ms. Shen.
- Edit based on feedback & resubmit.

This is your chance to learn more about a topic that interests you – do your best to share your interest with the class too!

Some possible topic ideas to get you started:

- Technology (i.e., YouTube influencer culture, Photoshop's influence on beauty standards, social media, etc.)
- Movies (i.e., history of horror films, Star Wars, Disney princesses, etc.)
- TV (i.e., *Cops*, *Friday Night Lights*, *Tiger King*, children's tv, late night tv, tv in the age of Covid-19)
- Comic books (i.e., Capt America, Wonder Woman, Stan Lee, etc.)
- Video games (i.e., Twitch, gaming addiction, explore a specific game, origins of video games, gaming culture/community, rise of esports, etc.)
- Sports (Harlem Globetrotters, sports gambling, rise of ESPN, Michael Jordan, Venus Williams, etc.)
- Fashion or art (i.e., sneaker culture, fashion trends in a decade, graffiti art, etc.)
- Music & dance (i.e., the Beatles, Michael Jackson, MTV, Queen, Beyonce, Kayne West, the Grateful Dead, country music culture, etc.)
- Cultural icons (i.e., Marilyn Monroe, Walt Disney, Richard Simmons, etc.)

Steps of the assignment:

Week 1 (week of May 11th):

1. Choose topic & get it approved by Ms. Shen
2. Fill out project outline (posted in Google Classroom)
3. Start research & notes (answer ques. 1-4)

Week 2 (week of May 18th):

4. Finish notes (ques. 5-6) & start putting notes into the presentation
5. Upload presentation to Google Classroom for Ms. Shen's feedback

Week 3 (week of May 25th):

6. Once you get it back, look over Ms. Shen's comments & make edits to your presentation
7. Resubmit to Google Classroom (SENIORS due by Wed., May 27th and JUNIORS due by Friday, May 29th)

SOURCES:

For this project, **you MUST use at least 3 sources** in your research.

- Databases that may be useful are Pop Culture Universe, U.S. History in Context (GALE), Biography in Context (GALE.)
- You need at least 1 primary source that you somehow work into your presentation. This primary source could be episode(s) of a show, music, an interview, artwork, copies of comics, etc.. Remember, the pop culture IS often your primary source.
- **Keep track of all of your sources - you need a bibliography!**