



Website (Re)Construction Project

Overview

For this project students will create argument-based web pages, on the course website, on an issue related to the Reconstruction period or the Civil War. Student web pages will take a position on the debatable issue formulated for their topic, and will support that position with 2 – 3 evidence-based arguments. Evidence should come from a mix of primary and secondary sources. Each student's web pages should also address and refute at least one strong counter-argument.

Project Specifics

- (1) Webpages will be provided for each student on the course website.
- (2) One webpage should be devoted to the historical context, including a timeline (if appropriate), for the issue.
- (3) The homepage should include the debatable issue, context on why it is a controversy or open question, and the student's position on the issue.
- (4) All of the remaining pages should be argumentational. They should be showcasing and analyzing evidence that supports a small set of arguments, or responses to counter-arguments, in support of the pages' overall position. Where useful, that position should be re-stated.
- (5) Evidence on these argumentational pages should be drawn from a blend of primary and secondary sources, with weighting toward primary sources. In fact, at least 8 distinct primary sources should be used, though these should include at least 2 historical photographs; at least



2 historical newspaper, diary, or letter accounts; and at least one additional artifact (e.g., political cartoon, poster, drawing, etc.). All primary sources should be identified with a caption, which must include a description and date.

- (6) One webpage should be devoted to an annotated bibliography, using an approved citational format (e.g., Modern Language Association). All references to text – paraphrase or quotation – must be properly cited at the place of the references themselves.
- (7) The webpages must use multimedia clips (video, audio) totaling about four minutes. These clips need to be properly sourced, as well.
- (8) The total number of webpages: 8 – 14.
- (9) Due Dates:

Mid-Project Check-In and Approval: June 3rd, 2016

Final Project Submission: June 10th, 2016

- (10) Students should ask by email or in-class any questions that they have, promptly (err on the side of reaching out), given the relatively short duration of the project.