

Social Studies Department  
Family History Project 2015-2016

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The family history project is an opportunity for you to directly link your family's experiences with the history you will learn in class. Instead of just learning the events through the pages of the textbook or the voice of your teacher, you may watch the history unfold before the eyes of your ancestors.

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◆ **WORKSHEET**

*Be complete – more information now will save a lot of time later. You will need help from your immediate family in completing your family history project. Start getting that help NOW. Go home and ask a parent to confirm this information, fill in blanks, and add any additional information needed. Use the back or additional paper as needed.*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>NAMES, AGES, AND CURRENT LOCATIONS OF OLDEST LIVING RELATIVES (AT LEAST THREE)</b>  |  |
| <b>KEY DETAILS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S IMMIGRATION EXPERIENCE (WHO FIRST CAME TO AMERICA; WHERE THEY CAME FROM AND WHEN)</b>   |  |
| <b>LIST OF TWENTIETH CENTURY EVENTS YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT THAT FAMILY MEMBERS WOULD HAVE EXPERIENCED (EITHER IN PERSON OR HEARD WHEN IT HAPPENED) - 10 MINIMUM</b> |  |
| <b>PARENT PRINT &amp; SIGN NAME</b>  |  |

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◆ **INTERVIEW AND BIOGRAPHY OF YOUR OLDEST LIVING RELATIVE**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>LENGTH</b>             | Interview should be 20–30 questions.<br>Biography, summary and analysis should be equivalent to about 1 page in MLA format.  |
| <b>DESCRIPTION</b>        | The interview with your oldest living relative is an opportunity to engage in a conversation to learn about this relative and your family as a whole. The <u>first part</u> of the interview paper is a direct transcript of your interview in question and answer format. The <u>second part</u> of the interview paper is a biography of this persona and a summary and analysis of your interview.  |
| <b>THINGS TO INCLUDE</b>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1-2 sentences to describe the setting, time, and subject of the interview.</li> <li>2. Direct transcript of interview.</li> <li>3. Biography of your relative and summary and analysis of interview.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>THINGS TO CONSIDER</b> | <p>Transcript</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What was their childhood like?</li> <li>● What was their adulthood like?</li> <li>● What are they most proud of with regards to the family?</li> <li>● What do they think of the family dynamics?</li> <li>● What memories do they have of your major family events?</li> </ul> <p>Summary and analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What did you learn about the person? What did you learn about the family?</li> <li>● What did your relative seem most interested in discussing?</li> <li>● What were you most interesting in hearing about?</li> </ul> |
| <b>TIPS</b>               | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have your questions written out prior to your interview. Create more questions than those we suggested above.</li> <li>2. Listen to your relative’s answers and adjust your questions accordingly with appropriate follow-up questions.</li> <li>3. Use your phone to video and audio record the interview.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>GRADING</b>            | Do you have 20-30 questions and answers in your interview transcript? Do you have a 1 page biography of your relative and summary and analysis of the interview? Did you imbed a video copy of your interview on your website? (This is easy to do once you upload the interview to <a href="http://www.YouTube.com">www.YouTube.com</a> .)  |

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### ◆ IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>PAGES</b>              | Equivalent to 2-3 pages in MLA format.   |
| <b>DESCRIPTION</b>        | Determine time frame and origin country of your first ancestors who came to America. The immigration paper will be description of the typical experience for someone from your family's native country. When possible include and personalize the paper with information about your ancestors' immigration experience. Compare your family's experience with the immigration experience from another country and time period.  |
| <b>THINGS TO INCLUDE</b>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What were the push factors? What did they experience when leaving? What was the typical method of travel? What pull factors brought them to America? What did they experience when they arrived in America?</li> <li>2. How was your family's experience similar to or different from a family from a different time and/or place?</li> </ol>  |
| <b>THINGS TO CONSIDER</b> | <p>Push</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What was their life like before leaving their native country?</li> <li>● What was going on politically in that country during that time?</li> <li>● What major historical events led to push factors?</li> </ul> <p>Pull</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why did they choose America?</li> <li>● What was America like at that time?</li> <li>● What was life like for immigrants when they arrived in America?</li> <li>● Did American life meet their expectations?</li> </ul> <p>Comparison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How did your family's immigration experience compare or contrast to the typical family's immigration experience during that time period?</li> <li>● How did your family's immigration experience compare or contrast to the typical family's immigration experience during a different time period?</li> </ul> |
| <b>TIPS</b>               | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Determine where your family is from and when they immigrated to America.</li> <li>2. Research the typical immigration to America experience for people in that country. Research what America was like at the time of immigration.</li> <li>3. When choosing a different experience to compare, choose one that was quite different.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>GRADING</b>            | Did you paint a clear picture of what the typical immigration experience was like? Did you (if possible) share your family's immigration experience? If your family doesn't have an clear immigration experience, did you talk to your teacher to get more direction or an alternate assignment?   |

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### ◆ HISTORICAL MEMORIES

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>PAGES</b>              | Equivalent to 4-6 pages in MLA format.  |
| <b>DESCRIPTION</b>        | Find out what it was like for at least five of your relatives to live through major historical events. Briefly research the event. Summarize the details and explain the relevance of each respective event.  |
| <b>THINGS TO INCLUDE</b>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Direct quotes from your relatives about the events.</li> <li>2. After researching the event, summarize the details and explain the relevance of each respective event in one short paragraph.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>THINGS TO CONSIDER</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Did your grandparents live through the Great Depression in the 1930's and/or World War II?</li> <li>● What were your parents or grandparents doing in November 1963 when President Kennedy was assassinated?</li> <li>● Did anyone serve in the armed services in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, or Iraq?</li> <li>● What about Elvis Presley and/or the Beatles?</li> <li>● What was it like for your parents or grandparents to be teens?</li> <li>● What was going on at the time they were teens?</li> </ul>  |
| <b>TIPS</b>               | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Find out what memories your relatives have about different time periods and events and write about them. The memories can be national events, international events, popular culture, etc.</li> <li>2. Quote your relatives extensively. Be sure you properly identify the relative and the event being discussed. Two approaches are good:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ask your relatives which events they feel were important, and discuss them.</li> <li>b. Ask questions about specific events on the timeline or which you have researched which you feel were important.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |
| <b>GRADING</b>            | Did you include a variety of historical events from a variety of time periods? Did you include direct quotes from a variety of family members? Will the reader understand what it was like to live through that time period?  |