

Summer Assignment-2017

Understanding world history in today's world is critical, as it really is an understanding of our identity and the human condition. Our world has shrunk immeasurably and what affects other parts of the world affects the United States. Increasingly in our modern world stories and histories are told through a variety of media. Therefore, this summer I would like you to explore modern world history not through books but through documentaries. Your assignment is in two parts.

Part I:

Choose any of the following documentaries and watch **THREE** of them.

1. The Romanovs (Royal Family of Russia) <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/romanovs/>
2. Blood and Oil (History of the Middle East during WWI) <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/blood-oil/>
3. Americas- Great Indian Leaders <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/americas-great-indian-leaders/>
4. Americas- Great Indian Nations <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/americas-great-indian-nations/>
5. Poor Us- Animated History <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/poor-us-animated-history/>
6. Guns, Germs, and Steel <https://cosmolearning.org/documentaries/guns-germs-and-steel-683/>
7. Invisible Nation (The Algonquin once lived in harmony with the vast territory they occupied. This balance was upset when the Europeans arrived in the 16th century.) <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/invisible-nation/>
8. The Empire in Africa (story of Sierra-Leone and the Diamond Industry)
<http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/empire-africa/>
9. The British Empire in Colour <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/british-empire-in-colour/>
10. 1421- The Year China Discovered America <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/1421-the-year-china-discovered-america/>
11. Civilization is the West <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/civilization-is-the-west-history/>
12. Haitian Revolution <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/haitian-revolution-toussaint-louverture/>
13. The Canary Effect (documentary that looks into the effects of that the United States and its policies have on the Indigenous peoples <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/canary-effect/>
14. Iran- Seven Faces of a Civilization <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/iran-seven-faces-of-civilization/>
15. Byzantium- The Lost Empire <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/byzantium-lost-empire/>
16. Brazil- an Inconvenient History (story of slavery in Brazil) <http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/brazil-inconvenient-history/>
17. Memory of the Camps (on the Holocaust) <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/memory-of-the-camps/>
18. The White Helmets (story of civilian volunteers in the Syrian Civil War)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wj4nclEDxw> (available through Netflix)

Part II: Write a 3-4 page paper that includes addresses the following prompts.

1. Summarize the documentary.
2. Using additional research, develop the historical context in which it takes place. Please cite your sources within the paper (1-2 pages)
3. Analyze the point of view of the documentary and discuss the documentary's historical validity in at least 2 ways. Please cite. (1/2-1 page)
4. Discuss how did the documentary enhanced your understanding of the topic (1/2 -1 page)
5. Present some additional questions you have or additional research you would like to do.

Be prepared to present your paper. This assignment is due on Friday, September 8th, 2017. Good luck students!! I look forward to seeing you!