

How Does History Prepare People in Reading, Problem-Solving (Figuring Things Out) and Writing

My work experience outside of teaching taught me that **history** (in my case my World History prof) was the discipline that began to teach me how to figure things out and write simply but accurately. History also taught how figure out decisions in life—and some of them are tough.

What Are Skills That Jobs Require

The recent article (with a copy below this one) is representative of the skills needed for jobs today. I have highlighted a few skills that the history writing and history in this class can help you with, including being in a team for work. Immediately below this link, you find the highlighted version.

What Does Texas Require of History Classes about Writing

The History Department is the **only** department that is required by the Texas Master syllabus (and I may be wrong on the name) to teach writing with primaries. Primaries are sources written or created during the period we are studying. That writing must be at least **30%** of your **Final** Letter Grade. This is a 1000-point course so it easy to give an example. If you were **absolutely perfect** on **each** of the other 700 points out of the 1000 but you did not attempt the writing work in the course, the **highest** letter grade you could make is a **C-**

Given the 3 Things Above, How Were Some Students Being Hurt?

- If you do **not** practice these skills early in college, you may have difficulty in later classes or in some first jobs.
- If you do **not** attempt the 300-points of writing work, you will make fail or make a low grade.

Attempts to Make It Easier for All Students to Do the Writing

If you do not need the things below, that is **great**. What has been troubling me for last several years I have seen more and more students just not try.

1. You have an Evidence Quiz that lets you find out what you do not know so you can figure what you need to do **before** you turn in your paper. I am also glad to help each of you.
2. **To reduce your time**, I do many things, including providing a file that has a sample paragraph organization with the required citation built in. Moving around citation is faster than creating it. If you like my paragraph organization, use it. That's fine.
3. To not only reduce your time, but also to learn that people **notice different things** as they read and figure out things **more** than one time, instead of a couple of writing projects each with different primaries and different pages from the textbook (a lot of reading), all of the 3 assignments use the **same** primaries and textbook pages.
4. Instead of a couple of writing projects, you practice in the 2nd and 3rd parts **essential skills (fact-checking, plagiarism-checking, and giving feedback and responding to it)** that make your writing **more useful**.
5. If you did not know how to do this in the beginning, but you learn how to by the end, I will overwrite your 1st Part paper. Look up the word **OVERWRITE** in the syllabus.
6. Because students seem to need to focus, during the 1st Part Writing, you have no other graded work. You can get help as well. The 2nd and 3rd Parts occur during regular Units, but you are practicing a different skill with the same content you used before. You are also examining two other students' work so you will see—for example—that **anyone** with a copy of the source (and **you** have a copy in the course) can tell (and prove) if another person plagiarized or embellished a fact in the source until it became untrue. **Tip**: It is safer to realize these realities early in your life.

Scan down and look only at the sections in **yellow** about Writing Work.

List of Due Dates-Print ME! Check off each **box** on the **left** as you finish. Notice **black** headings for **all** Writings.

Tips: For success, use what is at the **top** of **each** folder. **Ask** if you need help! All tips in Unit 1 apply to **all** Units.

Getting Started in This Course – Course Overview and Orientation (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All documents located in Getting Started 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introductory Tasks at the end of Course Orientation 	A due date	45

Unit 1: The title of the unit (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Guide with 4 Lesson Links (Optional Chapters 1-8) 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Quizzes Tip: See syllabus for incentives & why 80%+ 	A due date by 11:59 PM	70
Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 Exam Tip: Read About Unit Exams (bottom of all Units) 	An exam's beginning date to its ending date by 11:59	100

1st Part Writing: Evidence Quiz & Your Paper (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 primaries and 1 video Tip: Look at these as you work. 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence Quiz Tip: Score 80+% to see the writing Discussion. 	A due date by 11:59 PM	40
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Part Writing Tip: See syllabus for OVERWRITE 1, 2, 3. 	A due date by 11:59 PM	100

Unit 2: The title of the unit (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Guide with 4 Lesson Links (Optional Chapters 9-14) 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Quizzes 	A due date by 11:59 PM	50
Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 2 Exam 	An exam's beginning date to its ending date by 11:59	100

2nd Part Writing: Fact-Checking & Plagiarism-Checking 2 Students' Papers (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same 2 primaries and 1 video Tip: Look at these as you work. 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2nd Part Writing to help you and 2 students @ 50 points each 	October 3 by 11:59 PM	100

Unit 3: The title of the unit (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Guide with 3 Lesson Links (Optional Chapters 15-22) 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Quizzes 	October 18 by 11:59 PM	80
Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 3 Exam 	An exam's beginning date to its ending date by 11:59	100

3rd Part Writing: Evidence-Centered Reply to 2 Students' Feedback (Start date to end date)

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same 2 primaries and 1 video Tip: Look at these as you work. 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd Part Writing to help you and 2 students @ 50 points each 	October 11 by 11:59 PM.	100

Respondus & Final Exam (Start date to end date) – Opens EARLY for Respondus Practice & History Review

Assignment Type	Assignment	Date Range/Due Date	Points
Required Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About Sample Respondus Exam and Final Exam (at the top) All documents located in the Respondus folder History Review—a link to questions and to answers About the Final (at the bottom, above where the exam will be) 	A date range	--
Graded Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample Respondus Exam Tip: When done, the Review is visible. Prof's video check: October 10-11 and 16-17. Caution: To take the Final Exam, you must do this exam. 	An exam's beginning date to its ending date by 11:59	15
Final Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Exam—Prof's video check: October 19-22. Exam grades may change after the video check. History Department policy: No Final Exam – then an F for the whole course. Please take it! 	An exam's beginning date to its ending date by 11:59	100

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus during the semester.