

## 2017-2018 Social Studies Research Paper Guide Due December 5, 2017

### **Paper Requirements:**

#### **Page #1: Title page (Name, Date, Teacher)**

#### **Page #2: Statement of research question/problem**

- Clearly stated
- Original or explores new aspect of a topic; appropriate to selected discipline category
- Neither too limited nor too broad
- Establishes local, state, national or international significance of the topic (Who cares?)

#### **Page #3, page #4 and page #5: Research Findings**

- Arguments for and against, are in logical order, or information is organized to build to give the whole picture (informative/explanatory)
- Information included is significant, **credible**, and relates to the topic
- Information included is fair and thorough; there is sufficient data on which to base conclusion
- Critical thinking in the interpretation, analysis, and evaluation of information/data is evident
- Analysis of primary and/or secondary sources is supported by reference to data or textual evidence in the paper (Refer to and Cite your sources in the paper)
- Writing effectively communicates the selection, integration, and synthesis of the Information (there is a logical order to the paper that pulls all sources together).
- Plagiarism or overreliance on one source or type of source is avoided (Grade of 0)

#### **Page #6: Conclusion**

- Answers the question/addresses the problem
- Follows from and supports the argument/ information provided
- Articulates implications or significance of the findings

#### **Page #7: Bibliography in standard **MLA** citation format (minimum of 5 sources)**

**Paper MUST be formatted in the following manner: NO HANDWRITTEN PAPERS will be accepted.** Papers must have 1" margins for the top, bottom, left and right, 12 pt. Times New Roman or Arial font, No use of **bold** or ALL CAPS, No extra spaces for paragraphs, each section listed above must begin on a separate page. Major points will be deducted if you do not follow these formatting rules.

### **Tips for a good paper**

#### **Format/Conventions of language**

- Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Formal style and no bias is evident
- Paper is typed on computer and submitted on Canvas

#### **Methodology**

- Steps in project development follow the logical social studies research methods
- Social studies process skills are appropriately applied
- Multiple **EXPERT** sources are used (Minimum of 5). These should include **PRINT** (newspaper, magazines, books or journals) as well as **RELIABLE** internet sources, interviews and other sources that represent different points of view.