

## **HISTORICAL FICTION REVIEW**

You will work with a partner on this assignment. It does not matter who your partner is, or who their teacher is, as long as they have also been assigned the historical fiction review paper for their research assignment.

For this project, you are required to read a novel and analyze, compare, and contrast the way that it portrays a contemporary issue. Your paper will contain the following elements:

- **An Overview of the Historical Issue Presented**

Once you have read the novel, you will prepare a one to two page overview of the significant historical issue that is addressed in the novel. The overview should allow you to establish some historical context for the novel. Discuss relevant figures, events, pieces of legislation, etc. that would serve in putting your novels in historical context.

- **Review**

Your object is to discuss the book's viewpoints and its contents. Questions that you want to address include, but are not limited to:

- What and/or how does this book reflect on the time period? Be sure address the scope of the book and identify its point of view.
- Why did the author write the book? Did this person write because there was no satisfactory work on the subject, or did the author feel that he/she had a new point of view or insight on a well-worn topic?
- Who is the audience for this book? What measures does the author take to reach this audience? What does the author want the audience to take away from this book (think historically)?

- **Historical Interpretation**

When comparing the book to actual historical events you will want to include in your discussion:

- Compare and contrast how the author's interpretation differs from the historical time period the author is writing about or writing in. Be specific.
- Is the author trying to make a statement about contemporary issues or historical events? Analyze.
- Does the book fit into the prevailing interpretations of the subject or does it break new ground? Give thorough details.

- **Evaluation**

While evaluating the book, you must include research from book reviews:

- Author's qualifications, background, and bias. Include information about the author to establish his/her qualifications (or lack thereof) and his/her viewpoint in writing the book. You must do some research on the background of the author in order to ascertain this information – be sure to include this research in your bibliography.
- What are historian's and/or other author's comments on the books?
- How effective is the presentation? Is there literary quality to the work?
- Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not?

You should be able to back up your assertions about the book with quotations from the book. If you quote the book, be sure to use parenthetical notation. IT SHOULD BE

APPARENT THAT YOU HAVE ACTUALLY READ THE BOOK AND NOT JUST THE CLIFF'S NOTES OR A REVIEW. Consult book reviews and outside sources to gain information about the author and to guide you in your assessment of the book. THESE WORKS MUST BE PROPERLY CITED IN YOUR PAPER WHEN YOU USE THEM.

### **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

1. Paper should quote extensively from the book and cite page numbers. Likewise, it should cite whenever an outside source is used.
2. Professional journals must be included, such as book reviews and journal articles. If you have a hard time finding journal articles through our school or public libraries, get a CCCC library card and you will be able to access J-STOR and History Center Online.
3. Paper must have a thorough bibliography that uses MLA format. Internet sources can be used, but must be used IN ADDITION to books and journal articles. The bibliography should include your book, at least 3 - 4 books that you used to find historical information, at least one each book review, and journal article.
4. Approximately 5 – 7 pages, typed, double-spaced in 12 point Arial font, standard 1” margins.
5. Title page should include:  
Historical Book Review, book title, name, class, period, teacher, and date.
6. Staple paper in upper left hand corner – NO FOLDERS OR BINDERS.
7. Your grade will be based on the quality of the review of the book, your ability to put the book in context, your comparison, and the quality of your writing. Errors of spelling, grammar, punctuation, typing and style will be substantially penalized. REMEMBER: Spell check is good – proofreading is better.
8. You will need to submit your paper to turnitin.com before the paper is turned in. Once registered with turnitin.com, join class number **1722834** (APUSH Research: password “history”) and submit your paper.

### **DUE DATES**

1. A rough draft of the historical summary and brief author biography with sources. This must be typed, double spaced, with bibliography DUE **JANUARY 16, 2006**. This will count as a double daily grade.
2. Final research paper: DUE **FEBRUARY 19, 2006**

**NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED: NO MATTER WHAT, YOU MUST GET YOUR PAPER TURNED IN ON THIS DATE: NO EXCEPTIONS! DO NOT BLAME YOUR COMPUTER OR PRINTER!**

**THIS WORK COUNTS AS TWO TEST GRADES.**

## 2006 Research Project Rubric: Historical Fiction

### 8-9

- Reflects sophisticated understanding of how the book reflects the values, culture, and/or history of the time period
- Incorporates a substantial amount of information from the book (including quotes) that reflect a thorough reading and understanding of the book
- Review reflects synthesis of history, author information, and book subject matter
- Historical interpretation provides specific comparison to history
- Evaluation of book includes solid, scholarly review of the book in a sophisticated manner
- Bibliography is solid and is in accordance with MLA format
- Paper follows all format guidelines

### 5-7

- Reflects good understanding of how the book portrays the time period
- May not incorporate as many quotes and direct references from the book
- Review has rudimentary connection to the historical time period; attempts to address author's background, but may not have a real grasp of the significance or influence
- Historical interpretation provides some comparison to history
- Evaluation incorporates less scholarly reviews – may depend on them for real analysis of the book – or simply may not have appropriated number and type of resources
- Bibliography follows MLA format - sources not as complex
- Paper follows all format guidelines

### 2-4

- Focuses more on the plot of the book; describes the history in a general manner
- Inappropriate attempt to quote from and or site the book
- Review does not make connection to the historical time period; address author's background but makes no connection to significance or influence
- Historical interpretation has no comparison to history
- Reviews are not acceptable and are not incorporated in an acceptable manner
- Bibliography is shallow - sources are not complex or appropriate; does not follow MLA format
- Paper deviates from format guidelines; more serious errors and typos

### 0-1

- Paper is about the book, not history
- Little effort is made to incorporate information from the books
- Review does not make connection to the historical time period; author background is not addressed
- No historical interpretation/comparison to history
- No reviews included
- Bibliography is poorly done or missing
- Paper does not follow format guidelines

## 2006 Historical Fiction Book List

### 1700 – 1850

Roanoke Hundred – Inglis, Fletcher  
Winthrop Woman – Seton, Anya  
Arundel – Roberts, Kenneth Lewis  
Unvanquished – Fast, Howard  
The Land Breakers – Ehle, John  
O Beulah Land – Settle, Mary Lee  
Redcoat – Cornwell, Bernard  
Washington and Caesar – Cameron, Christian  
Two Crowns for America – Kurtz, Katherine  
Citizen Washington: a novel – Martin, William  
The French Admiral – Lambdin, Dewey  
By the Force of Arms – Nelson, James A.  
Rise to Rebellion – Shaara, Jeff  
Guns for Rebellion – Mason, F. Van Wyck  
Dark Eagle: a novel of Benedict Arnold and the American Revolution – Harr, John  
The Sunshine Patriot – Partington, Norman  
The President's Daughter – Chase-Riboud, Barbara  
My Thomas – Grimes, Roberta  
Stone Heart: a novel of Sacajawea – Glancy, Diane  
I Should be Extremely Happy in Your Company: a novel of Lewis and Clark – Hall, Bryan  
1812 – Nevin, David  
Magnificent Destiny – Wellman, Paul Iselin  
Burr – Vidal, Gore  
Treason – Nevin, David  
Scandalmonger – Safire, William  
Eagle's Cry – Nevin, David

### 1850 – 1900

The Ox-Bow Incident – Clark, Walter Van Tilburg  
Cimarron – Ferber, Edna  
Andersonville - Kantor, MacKinlay  
Camp Ford – Boggs, Johnny D.  
The Chaneyville Incident – Bradley, David  
The Shadow Warriors – Judd, Cameron  
Antietam – Reasoner, James  
The Bloody Ground - Cornwell, Bernard  
Where I'm Bound – Ballard, Allen B.  
Buffalo Soldier: the extraordinary life and times of Nate Gordon from Louisiana slave to Buffalo Soldier – Lewis, J.P. Sinclair  
Killer Angels – Shaara, Michael  
Gettysburg – Gingrich, Newt  
Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All – Gurganus, Allan  
Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman – Gaines, Ernest, J.  
Booth – Robertson, David  
A Bullet for Lincoln – King, Benjamin  
Banished Children of Eve – Quinn, Peter  
Cloudsplitter – Banks, Russell  
Flashman and the Angel of the Lord – Fraser, George MacDonald  
History of Rome Hanks and Kindred Matters – Pennell, Joseph Stanley  
Cold Mountain – Frazier, Charles  
The March – Doctorow, E.L.  
The Long Roll – Johnston, Mary  
In the Fall – Lent, Jeffrey

Year of Jubilo: a novel of the Civil War – Bahr,Howard  
The Log of a Cowboy – Adams, Andy  
Lonesome Dove – McMurtry, Larry  
Daughter of Fortune – Allende, Isabel  
Goldfield – Wheeler, Richard S.  
Creek Mary's Blood – Brown, Dee  
Holy Road – Blake, Michael  
The Bend in the River – Gibbs, Susan  
Against All Odds: The Lucy Scott Mitchum Story – Riefe, Barbara  
The Day the Sun Died – Van Every, Dale  
A Trail to Wounded Knee – Champlin, Tim  
One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd – Fergus, Jim  
Follow the River – Alexander, James  
Path of the Sun – Dempsey, Al  
The U.P. Trail – Grey, Zane  
Ladies of the Goldfield Stock Exchange – Downing, Sybil  
Miss Morissa: Doctor of the Gold Trail – Sandoz, Mari  
Jubilee Jim and the Wizard of Wall Street – Porter, Donald Clayton  
Power and Glory – Canfield, Gerald

### **1900 – 1950**

Ragtime – Doctorow, E.L.  
City of Light – Belfer, Lauren  
Theophilus North – Wilder, Thornton  
Twilight Sleep – Wharton, Edith  
Interesting Times – Thompson, Joan  
The Sun Also Rises – Hemingway, Ernest  
A Farewell to Arms – Hemingway, Ernest  
The Sable Doughboys – Willard, Tom  
Stallion Gate – Smith, Martin Cruz  
Los Alamos – Kanon, Joseph  
1945 – Gingrich, Newt  
Catch-22 – Heller, Joseph  
From Here to Eternity – Jones, James  
Thunder on the Mountain: A Novel of 1936 – Poyer,David  
Youngblood – Killens, John Oliver  
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter – McCullers, Carson  
Light in August – Faulkner, William  
Washington, D.C. – Vidal, Gore  
Fireweed – Walker, Mildred  
Main Street – Lewis, Sinclair  
Billy Bathgate – Doctorow, E. L.  
Pretty Boy Floyd – McMurtry, Larry  
Sea Glass – Shreve, Anita  
Grapes of Wrath – Steinbeck, John  
Giant – Ferber, Edna  
All the Pretty Horses – McCarthy, Cormac  
Wolf Whistle – Nardon, Lewis

### **1950 – present**

Under Fire – Griffin, W.E.B.  
Marines of Autumn: a novel of the Korean War – Brady, James  
Floating World – Kadohata, Cynthia  
Snow Falling on Cedars – Guterson, David  
Topaz – Leon Uris  
In the Company of Spies – Barlay, Stephen

Tales of Beatnik Glory – Sanders, Ed  
On the Road – Jack Kerouac  
Trinity Fields – Morrow, Bradford  
Night Travellers – Elizabeth Spencer  
A Walk Through Fire – Cobb, William  
The Children Bob Moses Led – Heath, William  
Paradise – Morrison, Toni  
The Last Hotel for Women – Covington, Vicki  
American Pastoral – Roth, Philip  
The Golden Age – Vidal, Gore  
Echo House – Just, Ward  
Better Times than These – Groom, Winston  
In Country – Mason, Bobbie Ann  
The Shot – Kerr, Philip  
Libra – DeLillo, Don