10th Grade Research Paper Topics

I. Leadership
   Was this person a great leader, or an unsavory dictator?
   What were his or her goals, and did he achieve them? Why?
   In what way was this leader a product of his/her times?
   In what way did this leader influence change?
   Cleisthenes
   Agrippa
   Julius Caesar
   Marcus Aurelius
   Cleopatra
   Vespasian
   Titus
   Constantine
   Charlemagne
   William the Conqueror
   Saladin
   King John
   Eleanor of Aquitaine
   Queen Isabella of Castille
   Henry VIII
   Elizabeth I

II. Religion
   Evaluate the impact of this religious figure.
   What were the motivations behind this person’s actions?
   How did they effect change?
   What challenges did he or she struggle to overcome?
   Ancient Egyptian Religion
   Paul
   Canonization of Christian Bible
   St. Augustine
   Women in Christianity
   Monasticism
   Early Christianity and the Jews
   Mohammed
   Spread of Islam
   Rashi
   Rambam
   Urban II
   Struggle between Papal authority and the state
   Jan Hus

III. War
   In what way did this conflict prove to be a historical turning point?
   Was this conflict inevitable? Desirable?
What was the impact of this struggle on ...lower class people? Religious views?
Hasmonean Revolt
Actium
Bar Kokhba Rebellion
Norman Invasion
Crusades
Reconquista
Spanish Armada

IV. Society
What was the role of religion or religious power in this event or issue?
What was the impact of this on the political hierarchy or power of the aristocracy?
How did this contribute to the development of democracy?
In what way was this a cause or result of class struggle?
Roman Law
Chivalry in Feudal Europe
Conflict between Anglo-Saxons and Normans
Black Death
Rise of Italian City-States
Medicis in Florence
Rise of Amsterdam
Development of Commerce and Banking
Magna Carta
Jews in Medieval Europe

V. Arts and Sciences
Literature
Explore the context of this literature.
What was the impact of this piece?
What can be deduced about the author and his times?
Horace
Beowulf
Canterbury Tales
Bayeux Tapestries
Song of Roland
Greek Epic or Lyric Poets
Science
How did knowledge in this area change over time?
What was the significance in history?
How did this person/development change how people understand their place in the world?
Medicine
Role of the Church
Galileo
Copernicus
1. Your final paper will be a 5-7 page typewritten researched thesis paper on a topic dealing with Western Society from Ancient Man through the Renaissance.

2. You must use at least 4 sources. One must be a primary source, and two must be book sources.

3. Encyclopedias, including Wikipedia, are to be used only for background, with the exception of specialty encyclopedias.

Due Dates:
12/5 or 12/9 Introduction of the project

12/13 Topic and 2 sources on a sheet of paper to be collected.

12/17 2 Bib cards, 20 note cards, and question sheet with at least 6 research questions—in class workday, bring materials

1/10 2 additional bib cards, 30 additional note cards, and question sheet with at least 10 additional questions (think thesis)

1/21 Thesis paragraph due

2/3 Revised thesis paragraph with full topic sentence outline

2/18 A typed best effort draft is due. You must include parenthetical citations and bibliography. Follow all of the correct manuscript rules. See link on homework website for details.

3/10 Final Draft Due. Submit in two forms: (1) Hard copy in a manila envelope along with rough draft, outline, notecards, etc. (2) As email attachment (Microsoft Word)