

Culminating Assessment

Class: U.S. Government

Unit: Executive Branch

Assignment Description:

Compose a 3-5 page research paper that explores a President of the past or present and how they fulfilled their roles as defined by the four C's (Chief Executive, Commander in Chief, Chief Diplomat, Ceremonial Head of State). The research paper should include an introduction, at least one concrete example for each of the four C's, and a conclusion. Take care to explain the ways in which their example shows the President in the role they are attempting to illustrate. The paper should contain an introduction, conclusion, and independent sections for discussion of each of the four roles.

OR...

Create a portfolio of primary sources that explores a President of the past or present and how they fulfilled their roles as defined by the four C's (Chief Executive, Commander in Chief, Chief Diplomat, Ceremonial Head of State). The portfolio should include at least two primary sources per Presidential role. Each source should be accompanied by a blurb that explains what the source is, what Presidential role it illustrates, and why you selected it. Portfolio should contain an introduction, conclusion, and tabs for each of the four roles.

Formatting Requirements:

Papers should adhere to [MLA](#) or [Chicago](#) formatting requirements. This requires a title page, bibliography, and should be written double spaced in size 12 of an easily readable font like Arial, Times New Roman, or Calibri.

Source Requirements:

You must include a minimum of four sources gathered from reputable sites, books, or periodicals. If you have questions about a source's reputability can begin at the [Purdue OWL](#). If creating a portfolio, you will need a minimum of eight primary sources.

Wikipedia is not a reputable source!

Students may find it helpful to begin looking in the following locations:

[National Archives](#)

[Presidential Libraries](#)

[The Library of Congress](#)

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Style (10%)	Paper met all formatting requirements listed on the assignment sheet. Paper is written in a clear manner and has two or fewer spelling or grammar issues.	Paper met most formatting requirements listed on the assignment sheet. Paper was within a half page of page count requirements. Paper is written in a readable manner or has less than five spelling or grammar issues.	Paper met some formatting requirements listed on the assignment sheet. Paper was within one page of page count requirements. Paper is difficult to read or contains more than seven spelling and grammar issues.	Paper met few formatting requirements listed on the assignment sheet. Paper more than one page from page count requirements. Paper is difficult to read, filled with spelling and grammar issues.
Organization (10%)	An independent introduction section is present and clearly introduces the purpose of the paper. An independent conclusion section is present and clearly wraps up the paper.	An independent introduction section is present but it does not clearly introduce the paper. An independent conclusion section is present but does not clearly wrap up the paper.	An independent introduction section is not present but the paper has an introductory sentence. An independent conclusion section is not present but the paper has a concluding sentence.	Paper did not have an introduction or conclusion.
Content (35%)	An independent section is devoted to discussion of at least one concrete example for each role and discusses why this example fits into that role. OR... An independent tab contains at least two primary sources for each role. Detailed blurbs are present on each example.	An independent section is devoted to discussion of at least one concrete example for each role. OR... An independent tab contains at least two primary sources for each role. Blurbs are present on each example.	An independent section is not present for each role but some discussion of the roles occurs. OR... An independent tab contains at least two primary sources for each role. Blurbs are not present.	Little to no discussion of the roles is present. OR... An independent tab contains less than two primary sources for each role.
Sources (45%)	Four or more reputable sources are present and	Three or more reputable sources are present and	Two or more reputable sources are present and	One or fewer reputable sources are present or no

	cited in bibliography. Or eight primary sources for portfolio.	cited in bibliography. Or six primary sources for portfolio.	cited in bibliography. Or four primary sources for portfolio.	bibliography. Less than four primary sources for portfolio.
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