

HIS 106: World History II
Dr. Jonathan Skaff

Paper Assignment 1: The Columbian Exchange

Length: 3 to 5 pages, double-spaced in a plain 12-point font

Due: Thursday, March 3

Hardcopy in class with grading sheet on reverse attached

Electronic copy to D2L Digital Dropbox

Write a paper about **one** of the following items involved in the Columbian exchange from about 1500 to 1900: cacao (chocolate), coffee, peanuts, potatoes, rubber (tree-based type), sugar, tobacco or another crop or animal with permission from me. Do research in **all pertinent articles** in *The World that Trade Created* and **three or more** library books or full-text database articles. Many relevant books are on reserve at the Lehman Library circulation desk. **No internet sources** are allowed except for library databases.

Library database and citation study guide: <http://research.library.ship.edu/his106-skaff>

Library reserve books: <http://ares.ship.edu/ares/> (You may need to create an account.)

When you write: 1) Develop a thesis that explains **why** consumption of this item spread globally. Your thesis should answer the question: **Why** did people want to consume this item? 2) Defend your thesis by describing the spread of consumption of the item and explaining **why** it became important globally.

Quotations or **ideas** that you take from your sources should be acknowledged with properly formatted MLA in-text citations and bibliography. Failure to acknowledge the source of a quote or an idea is **plagiarism**. **Flagrant cases of plagiarism may result in a grade of “F” for the class.** To avoid plagiarism:

- A. Place quotation marks around the words of another author. A good rule of thumb is to use quotation marks when you directly quote 4 or more words in a row.
- B. Always cite **words** or **ideas** that you have taken from another author.
- C. Do not copy another student’s paper. Allowing another student to copy your paper will be considered a case of academic dishonesty, and will carry the same penalties as plagiarism.

You will be graded on 1) the content of the paper and 2) the quality of your writing mechanics. See the grading sheet on the reverse for more information on how the paper will be evaluated. **Your grade will be reduced because of deficiencies in grammar, spelling, punctuation, organization, readability, and citations.**

Effective writing is a five process: 1) research and note taking, 2) brainstorming, 3) outlining, 4) writing and 5) revision. Notice that the actual writing of the paper is only one part of the process. The foundation of a good paper is thorough research notes. Keeping in mind what you have learned from research, jot down ideas that you think are important. Next, you should outline your ideas more carefully. After writing at least one rough draft, you should read it critically, refine your ideas and correct grammar, spelling, etc. Two or more rough drafts often are necessary.

I’m not a very good writer, but I’m an excellent rewriter. ~James Michener (1907-97), PA native

Grading sheet (Attach to paper)

Name _____

Grade _____

Content

Research includes sufficient sources: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor
Describes spread of consumption: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor
Explains why consumption spread (thesis): ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor

Writing Mechanics

Clarity of writing: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor
Organization: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor
Grammar/word usage: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor
Spelling/capitalization: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor
Punctuation: ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor

MLA Citations and Bibliography

MLA Citations ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor ___Missing
MLA Bibliography ___Excellent ___Good ___Fair ___Poor ___Missing

Comments

___ Good job! ___ Sloppy
___ Interesting ideas ___ Need to think more clearly about your writing

Correction Symbols Used in Grading Papers

agr wrong agreement (noun-verb or noun-noun)
awk awkward sentence
cit citation needed
frag sentence fragment (usually a sentence that lacks a verb)
org organization problems
redun redundant (using different words to say the same thing more than once)
rep repetitious use of the same word
run-on run-on sentence
sp wrong spelling
trans poor transition (between sentences or paragraphs)
tn wrong verb tense
unc unclear phrase, sentence, or paragraph
wf wrong grammatical form of word
ww wrong word usage
¶ new paragraph needed