

## **RESEARCH ESSAY AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATION**

Your major project this semester will be to develop a short research project (10-20 pages) which you will also present in a mock conference that we will hold during the last two weeks of the semester. You will develop your project based on the call for papers included at the end of this document.

There are three graded portions of this project

1. **Research Proposal, 50 points**
  - a. You will propose a research project using the “Call for Papers” as your guide. The proposal must be submitted on eCampus no later than 11:59 PM on Friday, March 10th
  
2. **Conference Presentation, 100 points**
  - a. You will present your work in a mock conference.
  - b. Presentations must not exceed 20 minutes in length.
  - c. In addition to presenting your work, you may be asked to serve as a panel chair, discussant, timekeeper, etc.
  
3. **Research Essay, 300 points**
  - a. You will compose a 2500-5000 word essay (approximately 10-20 pages) of original research on the topic you selected.
  - b. Papers are due by Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> by 11:59 PM on eCampus
    - i. Late papers will NOT be accepted without prior approval or documentation of a genuine emergency.
    - ii. Your essay must be between 2500-5000 words (approximately 10-20 pages) in length and include page numbers.
  - c. Proofread carefully. Sloppy papers with misspellings, typographical errors, and grammatical problems will weaken your argument and lower your grade.
    - i. This is a formal paper. Avoid abbreviations, clichés, and colloquialisms.
  - d. Write for an audience of educated non-specialists.
  - e. All data and information that is not common knowledge **MUST BE CITED**. You may use whatever citation format you would like (Chicago Style is my preferred style and I am happy to provide instruction on it) but you must be consistent and thorough.
    - i. You **MUST** include a Works Cited page. If you need assistance with citations, please see me.
    - ii. Failure to cite or provide a Works Cited page will result in an automatic “F”
    - iii. Include page number notations in your citations for all sources that have them.
      1. NB: If you choose to write in APA style, please include page numbers in your in-text citations even though APA doesn’t require them.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS: "BODIES IN HISTORY AND CULTURE"**

The Center for Women's and Gender Studies at WVU is pleased to announce a call for papers on the topic of "Bodies in History and Culture." We welcome submissions from a variety of disciplines.

This conference aims to explore the ways in which bodies have been understood, represented, and contested in different historical and cultural contexts. How have ideas about the body been shaped by social, political, and cultural forces? How have bodies themselves been used as sites of resistance or conformity? How have they been impacted by technological and medical advances?

We are interested in papers that engage with these questions in a range of historical and cultural settings, and that consider the intersections of race, class, gender, sexuality, and other social identities in shaping bodies and bodily practices. We encourage submissions that challenge traditional narratives and explore underrepresented or marginalized perspectives.

Possible topics may include but are not limited to:

- Body image and beauty standards
- The medicalization of the body
- The role of the body in social and cultural hierarchies
- The use of the body as a site of resistance or protest
- The impact of technology on the body
- The representation of bodies in media and popular culture
- The cultural meanings and practices surrounding bodies and embodiment
- "Othered" bodies

Submission guidelines: Please upload a 250-word proposal to eCampus no later than 11:59 PM on Friday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to also include a 50-word biography with your submission.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and to fostering a vibrant and engaged conversation about the complex and multifaceted ways in which bodies have been shaped by history and culture.