



HIS 100 Theme: Investigating History Discussion Rubric

Prompt: In this discussion spanning **Weeks 3 and 4** in **Theme: Investigating History**, you will consider how historical lenses can affect the study of a historical topic. In **Week 3**, you will select one of the secondary source articles from the [Research Kit](#) for your chosen topic. After reading that article, write a discussion post about which of the following lenses you believe the article is using: social, political, economic, or other. Use at least two quotes from your source to explain why you believe this lens is being used. Your post title should also indicate which topic you have selected.

In **Week 4**, you will be prompted to respond to two of your peers' initial posts. When responding to peers, choose a peer who selected the same topic as you by looking at the title of your peers' initial discussion posts. In one to two paragraphs, compare and contrast the source you described in your initial post with the one described by your peer. Are the two sources' theses or arguments compatible? Do they use the same or different primary sources? Is one source more reliable, in your estimation, than the other? How do these two sources, combined, add to what you know about the research topic? Check back into this topic often throughout your work in this theme to continue this discussion.

Requirements for Discussion Topic Assignments

Students are required to post one initial post in Week 3 and to follow up with at least two response posts in Week 4.

For your initial post (1), you must do the following:

- Compose a post of one to two paragraphs.
- In Week 3, complete the initial post by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Take into consideration material such as course content and other discussion topics from the current module and previous modules, when appropriate (*make sure you are using proper citation methods for your discipline when referencing scholarly or popular resources*).

For your response posts (2), you must do the following:

- Reply to at least two different classmates outside of your own initial post thread.
- In Week 4, complete the two response posts by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. of your local time zone.
- Demonstrate more depth and thought than simply stating that "I agree" or "You are wrong." *Guidance is provided for you in each discussion prompt.*

Rubric

Critical Elements	Proficient (100%)	Needs Improvement (85%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Analyzing Historical Lenses	Discusses lens used by secondary source article and uses quotes from source to explain reasoning	Discusses lens used by secondary source article and uses quotes from source to explain reasoning, but discussion is cursory or unclear	Does not discuss lens used by secondary source article and use quotes from source to explain reasoning	40
Comparing Secondary Sources	Provides focused and direct comparison of peers' sources with source discussed in initial post	Provides comparison of peers' sources with source discussed in initial post, but the focus is unclear or unrelated to the questions posed	Does not provide comparison of peers' sources with source discussed in initial post	40
Communicates Clearly	Clearly communicates key ideas and thoughts in a short answer response to peer's initial post	Response needs clarification in order to support understanding of key ideas and thoughts relating to peer's initial post	Response is not legible and key ideas or thoughts relating to peer's initial post are not understandable	20
Total				100%