2019-2020 York Trip Research Project

In a group of 4 you will be researching an aspect of York’s culture, education, religion, geography or history. Research will be conducted in the Netherlands and be presented at an onsite location in York.

**Research**

1. Become the expert on your topic. That means research. Make sure your subject is narrow enough to ensure depth of research. We don’t want to hear what Wikipedia has to say about your topic. You are required to use primary and secondary sources. You need a minimum of five good sources. Primary sources are created at the time of an event, or very soon after something has happened (diaries, letters, photographs, art, maps, video and film, sound recordings, interviews, newspapers, magazines, published first-hand accounts, or stories). Secondary sources they are created **after** primary sources and they often use or talk about primary sources (history textbooks, biographies, published stories, movies of historical events, art, statues, music recordings, guided tours)
2. This doesn’t mean you’re presenting a mini-history lesson on the topic you are researching. You’re arranging your presentation around a thesis statement (a thesis statement expresses your opinion about a topic) and then developing, explaining and proving your thesis statement in your presentation. This approach includes examining different points of view and aspects of your topic. Your thesis statement is one or two sentences long and is arguable.

e.g. The Vikings greatly influenced York’s culture, architecture and system of government due to their prolonged stay in York.

1. See *How to do Research* on Magister for more information regarding how to organize research, what Sweet Search is, what a URL tells you, keeping track of your Bibliography etc.

**Presentation**

Your research on an aspect of York will be presented at two locations – the youth hostel and on site.

1. Youth hostel presentation

At the youth hostel the bulk (approximately 2/3) of your research will be presented in an interesting way. A beamer is available so include visuals such as maps, paintings, photographs, charts, etc to help illustrate your point. Remember that a power point presentation is meant to support your explanation of your research.

1. On site presentation

On the day we arrive in York, find an appropriate spot in York to present your research. During your presentation make sure you explain why you chose the location you did. Bring visual aids for the on-site presentation if necessary and make sure they are visible to everyone (A3 or a mobile upload which everyone can access).

\*\* For both presentations you may use point-form notes but you may not read from a script. Significant points will be deducted from your mark if you read from a script.

**Length, work days, due dates:**

1. Length: the presentation will be 13 - 17 minutes long. The length of the written research of the York aspect is 1500 - 2000 words – excluding bibliography, charts, pictures, etc.
2. Work Days:
   1. Every KWT is available to you (of course excluding required classes)
3. Due Dates:
   1. 29/10 – An A4 with outline of your research topic. Your outline will consist of your thesis statement that you are going to prove and 4 – 5 main points which supports your thesis statement. In addition you need sub-points under each main point. This means you’ve done preliminary research and have enough general knowledge of your topic to have an opinion of your topic (thesis statement) and know what main points and sub-points you will be researching. I will give feedback during KWT afternoon.
   2. 3/12 – approximately half of your project is written as a 1st draft.
   3. 14/1 – 1st draft of research project including thesis statement and body.
   4. 3/3 – Completed written research project submitted with a title page, page of contents, properly referenced bibliography in duotang (snelhechter),
   5. 3/3 – practice presentation during IB/York KWT afternoon

\*\* part of your final mark will include process marks

1. In addition to this research project you will submit reflections on the Banner of Truth conference. The expectations of the reflections will be further detailed at a later date and will be approximately a week after we return from the Banner conference.