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ENGL 379

Professor Jefferess

Colonial Legacies Project Proposal

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I will approach my topic of family legacy by investigating further into my family’s history. In pursuit of this I will research my ancestors in Wyoming who were some of the first people to start ranching there. I will conduct this research because it will provide context for my family’s position as immigrants then settlers.

I am not sure what project I am going to employ. I am leaning towards creating a zine or writing a personal essay. The zine would follow a genealogical timeline and highlight my family’s journey from various parts of Europe to Wyoming where we have been for the past six generations. It would illustrate my family’s transition from immigrant to settler while still discussing my colonial European roots. It would contain visuals and I would like to create a physical version. The personal essay would be much more textual and would most likely steer away from a timeline, and would take on a narrative form where I tell the story of my family while adhering to the same aforementioned points.

I would like to designate my audience to be general public or other university students. I think my project would be interesting and informative to both of these groups.

My project will largely tackle and apply ideas and concepts such as white savior complex and the white man’s burden, the European imperial project, and colonial patriarchy.

I will need to conduct ancestral research and interview my family to fulfill the research required for this project.