**GEH1077**

**Metropolis: The City in World History**

**Semester 2, AY2021-22**

**CA3 10%**

First Iteration of Final Project

1500 words (maximum)

Due: Week 10, 21 March 2022, 12 pm

**CA4 35%**

Final Project

1500 words (maximum)

Due: Week 13, 11 April 2022, 12 pm

Please upload your project (CA3 and CA4) onto our LumiNUS submission folder.

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**PROJECT**

This final project gives you the opportunity to create a piece of writing or a presentation inspired by this module. It will comprise of two parts.

In the first part, you may choose to create either ONE of the following:

1. A poster (A4 sized)

Imagine that this poster will be displayed at the Central Library.

1. A travelogue (historical or contemporary)
2. A short story
3. A museum exhibition proposal

In the second part, you need write an accompanying short essay on how this module inspired your project.

**Address these questions in your accompanying essay:**

What is your project? What sources (academic readings, documents, films, images) from the module did you draw on to develop this project? How has this project enabled you to reflect on the city in world history?

This essay forms an academic ‘framework’ to complement and support your creative project.

**Please use the following specifications for your project:**

Font: 12pt

Spacing: 2

Remember to indicate your name, and student number in your project.

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**Important Notes:**

In total, your project should be **1500 words**. Submit the creative element and essay as the one assignment document**. See the FAQ in this document to answer questions specific to your choice of creative activity.**

When grading your final project, we will take into consideration whether you’ve achieved a good balance between your creative work and your explanation of the project. Stronger submissions are those which demonstrate effectively how their authors (or you, the students) have engaged with the ideas and content of the module and explain their project in a clear and persuasive manner. The creative element is important; but ask yourself: Is what I’ve created effective? For instance, if it is a ‘historical recreation’ travelogue, have I produced something which is convincing and believable? Or, if it is a poster: what key idea am I conveying? What in the module had inspired it? Is it effective to the viewer? And how does it contribute in the study of the city in world history?

We will hold a workshop on this project in Tutorial 4. Come along prepared to share some ideas. Then, you will receive feedback on your CA3 submission before its final submission as CA4 on Week 13.

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**Further Information:**

IF you are using secondary materials (books, articles, websites) then you should use standard scholarly conventions of using footnotes and providing a bibliography. These extra materials will not be counted against your word allotment. For examples on how to write an essay (and footnoting conventions) please see the History Department’s guide “On Writing Essays” (available via the Department’s webpage). For instructions on how to use the Chicago Manual of Style, please refer to: <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html>

**Sources:**

Wikipedia and personal blogs/ vlogs are not a good sources for research at the tertiary level.

**Plagiarism:**

NUS takes a very strong view regarding academic dishonesty. All papers will be submitted to Turnitin. Plagiarism cases will be penalised and/or reported.

**Late Submission:**

Late submissions without a valid explanation and supporting documentation will be subjected to a penalty of half a grade per day the paper is late.

**Project FAQ (READ BEFORE THE WORKSHOP):**

1. **Can I work on any topic or am I restricted to the case studies in the module?**

Except for Singapore, you may choose any city as your case study. It might be more straightforward to draw on one of the cities (or themes) covered in the module lectures and readings. But if you’d like to work on another city for this project, that is fine. Remember, the key will be how you research it (demonstrate what has informed your project) and how you can then show its connections to the module.

1. **What is a poster?**

Posters aren’t so common in History; but are certainly used in the social sciences and other disciplines. Here consider that you want to convey just one or two ideas – try to be as effective as possible.

The A4 format is fine. Imagine you are walking into the Central Library and some enlarged posters are on display. A combination of text and pictures is acceptable, although consider what will be the most effective. (If your poster is text heavy then consider this as part of your word count. There is some flexibility here. But do think – *if the poster is really text heavy, will it be effective in engaging a passer-by?*

1. **Travelogue: can I write about my own travels?**

Yes, this is possible, but you need to still address all the questions in the CA instructions. You need to go beyond sharing about your travel experiences.

The travelogue can be either an historical ‘re-imagining’ or a contemporary rendition. In both cases, consider your tone, audience, and what research you needed to draw on to create a persuasive and engaging piece. Including images is your choice. (Your Travelogue could be roughly 500-600 words; then your Accompanying Essay could be roughly 900-1000 words.)

1. **What format is best for an exhibition?**

Give a title, mention the key focus for the exhibition and the ideas you’ll convey. Include an exhibit floor plan. Provide some examples of what visitors might see or experience and why. One or two key images or suggested display exhibits could work well. Remember that similar to a narrative, an exhibit tries to relay an unfolding and a message. In total, the exhibit proposal should be about 2 pages (around 500-600 words).

*Consider some museum exhibitions you’ve visited, what was effective? What would you change? And this gives you a sense of where to start.*

1. **Story**

Be as creative as you like! Consider: Which city am I focusing on? What do I want to emphasize in my story? Is this effective? What aspect of the city am I conveying? Allow around 500-600 words for your story.

1. **Why are we working on the project twice?**

Writing is the process of articulating and expressing your thoughts. Sometimes this is difficult – producing good writing can be a challenging process! Exploring an initial idea and having your peer’s and tutor’s feedback about it help you shape and sharpen your project. Your first submission is your first attempt at expressing the project (both the creative work AND the essay). Receiving detailed feedback is valuable, as it is an opportunity to reflect on whether your work was as effective as you’d hoped. Also, it challenges you to polish and refine your ideas.

1. **In any case, please remember**

The creative work is part of the whole…a good creative work and a weak accompanying paper means the overall impact is low. Try to balance the creative and the academic!