

Interwar Research Project

Background: World War I was an event that changed the way that people in many nations thought about a number of different things. After the war, some people wanted to remember the war in order to prevent it from happening again. Other people preferred to distract themselves with new ideas in the sciences, art, music, and with cultural movements that they believed would move the world forward, rather than looking back. This assignment will require you to **perform research and write a short thesis paper** regarding developments in science, art, music, or culture that took place during the Interwar Period.

Your Task:

1. Select a research question from this assignment sheet.
2. You will have 2-3 class periods and time at home for research. During that time, you should...
 - Create a *focused* thesis statement that answers the research question.
 - Perform research on the library databases and take notes with Noodletools notecards.
 - Keep track of the sources that you use, and create a bibliography in MLA format in Noodletools that contains citations for all of your information.
 - Use at least two sources other than the “Age of Anxiety” reading.
3. Write a 500 word, 1.5 spaced thesis paper that addresses the research question in an organized manner.
 - Your paper should have a proper MLA heading, spelling, grammar, and mechanics.
 - Almost all of your research will be paraphrased. Use direct quotes for only the most compelling evidence (i.e. something you can’t reword with the same impact).
 - You should parenthetically cite in MLA format (Author or “Article Title”) any information that is not yours.
 - For a paper of this size you do NOT need to include an introduction or conclusion paragraph, but you should have a clear thesis statement and a concluding sentence or thought.
 - Though this is a short writing assignment, you should organize your evidence into paragraphs. How you organize your research is up to you.
 - Since most of this assignment is about change, you need to discuss how things were *prior to* this period in order to draw contrast. You may use the “Age of Anxiety” reading to get this information and include a summary sentence or brief paragraph. This information/packet does NOT need to be cited in your bibliography. You could consider using this information as the introduction to your paper and end this paragraph with your thesis statement.
4. Include your complete MLA Bibliography exported from Noodletools for all research used.

Papers will be due on TurnItIn on **Friday February 14** by 5:00 PM.

Interwar Research Questions:

- How did the **role of women** in politics and society change during the interwar years?
- What important new ideas in **science and medicine** emerged in the interwar years?
- How did people **entertain** themselves during the interwar years?
- How did **art** change after World War I?
- What new directions did **music** and **literature** take during the interwar years?
- What new forms of **architecture** emerged in the interwar years?
- How did **transportation technology** advance during the interwar years?
- How did **household technology** change peoples' homes in the interwar years?
- How did favorite local **athletes** become national heroes during the interwar years?

Your Grade:

Focus: Writer demonstrates an understanding of the topic, has a clear thesis that answers the research question, and shows awareness of audience.	____ / 4
Organization: The writer uses introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs or sentences to skillfully group research evidence with corresponding arguments.	____ / 5
Elaboration: The writer supports ideas with details and evidence, most of which are specific, accurate, and relevant. These ideas are clearly connected to the thesis statement	____ / 5
Fluency: The writer chooses words appropriately, uses transitions consistently between ideas, and varies sentence structure to ensure that the writing reads fluently.	____ / 3
Mechanics: The paper contains few to no obvious spelling or grammatical errors.	____ / 3
Research and Citation: Sources are adequate in number, quality, and depth of information. Evidence is correctly parenthetically cited within the text of the paper. Majority of the evidence is paraphrased. The works cited page is correctly formatted.	____ / 10
TOTAL	____ / 30

Additional Comments: