

**Hist 1200 World History primary source project
1400-1700 words, worth 30%, due Nov 22-28.**

*(Get creative with the format if you want – maybe this is a written paper for you,
maybe it's a video, maybe it's something else.*

If you choose to do a video please email it to me directly and don't use Moodle to hand it in.)

Historians help the past speak to the present. This assignment will give you first-hand experience of how historians use primary sources to understand the past, and how we use those sources to explain the past to a modern audience. First, choose one primary source from the list below. Then you have two options:

1) Write/record a blog post to a friend who is not interested in history, and convince them that this source, its author, and the topic it is discussing are important for the modern world to know about.

Or, 2) Imagine that you are the author/creator of that source, and you want to tell a modern reader about yourself, your world, and why you matter. Explain who you are, what your world was like, what you wrote, and why you wrote it. What was your historical context like and how did it lead you to produce this document? Why do you think your document was important enough to still be around today? Why do you think the modern world should care about you and your world?

Either way you will have to include a short description of the source and its historical context. Use the first person (me, I). This is not a research paper so don't do any additional research; use your textbook and the lectures for context and cite it the same way you did for the describe and defend assignments.

All documents are in the Concise 2nd edition of the textbook.

ca. 200 BCE Code of Manu (p. 148)

ca. 100 BCE, Ban Zhao, Lessons for Women (p. 335)

Early 5th century CE, Faxian, A Record of Buddhistic Kingdoms (p. 385)

1324-1325, al-Umari, The Hajj of Mansa Musa (p. 490)

1411, Zheng He, The Galle Trilingual Stone Inscription (p. 491)

1789, The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano (p. 636)

1804, Haitian Declaration of Independence (p. 733)

1896, Prince Esper Ukhtomskii, Russia's Imperial destiny (p. 827)

1909, Bahithat al-Badiya, Industrialization and Women's Freedom in Egypt (p. 877)

1941-1944, Political Graffiti in Japan (p. 927)

I will use this rubric to grade your projects:

	poor	fair	good	excellent
Content and analysis				
- strong introduction with a clear direction				
- brief, accurate, relevant, historical context				
- accurate understanding of content				
- “so what?” (why does this source matter?)				
- strong conclusion				
Writing				
- paper is well organized overall, the pieces are in logical order				
- each paragraph is well organized, no 1-sentence or 1-page				
- strong transitions between paragraphs; no subheadings				
- clear, complete sentences (no incomplete/run-ons/awkward)				
- varied sentence structures and vocabulary (not repetitive)				
- no errors with spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc				
- all background information cited properly				