

# History 1000C

## Term Paper

History is often driven by extreme action of a small group, or even that of a single person. However, this can be misleading. For example, while only a select few of Americans started the revolution, they were working with ideas that have been circulating for many years prior to their actions. For your term paper, you will be examining such historical ideas and looking at their origins and impacts on important historical moments. Below, you will find a list of such ideas. Your job is to select one of them and, using at least three sources, **define it, examine its origins, spread and impact.** By the end of the paper, you should have **assessed the importance of this one idea to the history of the world from 1450-present day.** For this assignment, you may, at times, find arguments that contradict each other in your research. In such cases, you will have to make the decision to take a side, or at the very least explain, such debates surrounding your topic. In this manner, opinions are encouraged in this paper as long as they are backed by facts from your research.

The paper should be 5 to 10 pages long, typed, 12 times new roman font and double spaced. The textbook or lectures from class can be used as sources, but they will **not** count as one of your three required outside sources. The required outside sources must be books and/or journal articles. However, these books or journal articles can be found online. Either way, all sources must have a clearly identifiable author and publication information, or it will not count as a valid source. **To be clear, points will be taken off from your paper if any non-valid sources are used.** All sources that are used in the assignment must be valid.

Anytime you use a fact or idea that is not your own, you must use a **footnote** with the appropriate page number. This includes when you are quoting or paraphrasing. You should insert a footnote when you are finished using a source, or at the end of a paragraph, which ever comes first. These footnotes should use the Chicago style of citation. The guidelines for this type of citation can be found on the third page of this assignment in the hard copy version. For the online version of this assignment, the guidelines for citations can be found in a separate document.

**The term paper will be due on April 7<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm. The term paper must be handed in through blackboard.** They will not be accepted in class or through email. Late term papers will lose one point for every day that they are late. **Papers will not be accepted after April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm.** The paper is worth 25 points toward your final grade for the semester. Any evidence of plagiarism will result in an automatic zero for this paper.

Please select **one** of the following historical ideas:

- Communism
- Consumerism
- Imperialism
- Absolutism
- Atheism
- Socialism
- Darwinism
- Environmentalism
- Existentialism
- Fascism
- Materialism
- Pluralism
- Pacifism

Modernization  
Democracy (not the political party)  
Unionism  
Capitalism  
Theocracy  
Religious Reformation (Protestantism and/or Catholic Reformation)  
Nationalism  
Zionism  
Westernization  
Liberalism (not the association with the American Democratic Party)  
Isolationism (students tend to find this topic difficult as it isolates events as opposed to uniting them)  
Feudalism  
Totalitarianism  
Pan-Africanism  
Republicanism (not the political party)  
Feminism  
Mercantilism  
Deism  
Corporatism  
Conservatism (not the association with the American Republican Party)  
Humanism

You may select a topic not listed here. However, it must be an idea that has appeared throughout history that can be examined in the manner required by this assignment. Furthermore, it must be approved of by the professor or the paper will not be accepted.

For the online version of this assignment, the Guidelines for Citations can be found in a separate document.