

Family History

LESSON GOAL

Examine how the past has impacted the present through the discovery of one's family history.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How does my family history affect my achievement?

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Check Announcements for any information about assignments and due dates.

MY PORTFOLIO

- Submit work to My Portfolio.

MY WORKSPACE

- Prepare your assignments in My Workspace.

LESSONS

- Review the lesson.
- Complete assignment.
- Submit assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Use Assignments to submit your artifacts and reflections.

GRADEBOOK

- Check Gradebook for your lesson evaluation.

SCHEDULE

- Check schedule for assignments and due dates.

COMMUNICATE

with your teacher or other students if desired

- Blogger
- Chat Room
- Drop box
- Mailtool

3-4 class periods

LESSON OVERVIEW

Why is it important to learn about our family's past history? Being able to connect with our past helps us to understand our present situation and what our future can look like. By doing a small amount of genealogical research and asking ourselves good questions about our families, we are able to discover attributes that make us proud of our past and create a desire to pass on elements to future generations.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Participate in discussions about family history.
2. Create a family tree.
3. Reflect upon what was learned in genealogical research and family tree creation.
4. Watch clips or entire episode of *African American Lives 2*.
5. Reflect upon how you admire and relate to an individual in your family (or other relationship) and why you could find pride in passing along specific aspects of their lives from generation to generation.

There are two assignments in this lesson that ask you to describe and reflect on your family history.

Here are the ways you can succeed in this lesson

1. Take appropriate initiative in discussion regarding the connection to our family trees.
2. Work creatively and effectively to create a family tree and write a thoughtful reflection about what was learned.
3. Thoughtfully and thoroughly participate in video discussion.
4. Take initiative to write a thoughtful reflection about connecting to a family member.



ASSIGNMENT 1

In class you have discussed the importance of family history. Create a family tree with at least three generations, if possible, including the information below, although you may have trouble finding some of the information. Templates are available for free from http://www.uftree.com/family_tree_template.asp. Go home and research more information from family or other resources to complete the assignment.

1. Birth date and place

Family History

2. Death date, place and cause
3. Primary occupation, military service, volunteer experience
4. Education level and degree, if applicable
5. Hobbies, interests, travel experiences
6. Extreme hardships overcome (i.e., The Great Depression, loss of job, disease or illness, etc...)

When you are finished researching, write a thoughtful reflection about what you learned about your family. Answer these questions in your reflection.

1. What did you discover that you did not already know?
2. Were there things that surprised you, made you frustrated, got you excited or did you wish you had learned a different outcome?
3. What do you want to know more about now that you started a little research?

Share your family tree with the class.

Use the *Sakai* Assignments Tool to submit your family tree and reflection for evaluation.



ASSIGNMENT 2

In class you have created a family tree and learned about other people's genealogy. Reflect on these experiences as you write about one or two specific people in your family for whom you have high respect. Follow these steps.

1. Writings can be in the form of a biography, a dialogue, a poem, or a play script.
2. Highlight specific attributes or characteristics in these people's lives that you desire to emulate and see in your own life.
3. What is it about these chosen people that make you proud to be related to them?
4. What aspects of their lives should be passed on from generation to generation?
5. How can you keep your family traditions through these practices?
6. Summarize how you can connect more deeply to your family and its traditions.
7. Use the *Sakai* Assignments Tool to submit your reflection for evaluation.

Multiply the points by the weighted score and record in the total column for each rubric. Then tally the total points for the final score.

Weighted Score	Category	Exceeding 9-10 Points	Meeting 6-8 Points	Approaching 3-5 Points	Emerging 0-2 Points	Total
4	ASSIGNMENT 1 Family Tree Create a family tree and write a reflection about one's family.	Worked creatively and effectively to create a family tree and wrote a thoughtful reflection about what was learned.	Contributed to making a family tree and completed the family tree reflection.	Made minimal effort to create a family tree and to write a reflection.	Did not make an effort to make a family tree or write a reflection.	
3	ASSIGNMENT 2 Reflection Write about admired family members.	Took initiative to write a thoughtful reflection about connecting to a family member.	Reflected upon a connection with a family member.	Made a minimal effort to complete a reflection.	Did not write a reflection.	