

What Is History Forum

IMPORTANT TECHNICAL NOTE - *You will be able to read the posts of your classmates after the 30 minute post deadline. This is the 30 minute window of opportunity you have to "fix" or make changes to your post before it becomes "live", for everyone else to read.*

Sometimes online classes can feel like an isolated learning experience. As an traditional classroom instructor, I enjoy visibly "seeing" the students in my classroom each week; however, as an online course instructor, this is not possible. By using the technology available to us, it is possible to overcome some of these limitations.

My goal for this assignment is simple, but threefold.

#1 Following instructions

#2 Introducing yourselves to one another in an "historical way"

#3 Using the technology and meeting your first deadline

#1

Download and read the "What is history?" pdf file located in Moodle. It contains 2.5 pages of quotes about history by various individuals. Pick your favorite one (only 1) and tell the class why in an online post of less than 150 words.

IMPORTANT - When you post your reply, you must include the full name of the author of the quote (NOT your name) in the SUBJECT LINE of the post. You must copy and paste the entire quote from the pdf (or retype it if you cannot copy and paste) and put that at the very beginning of the MESSAGE field. Then, copy and paste your paragraph (from your word processor), below the quote, and submit your post.

#2

By posting your "What is history?" comments to this forum, you will better be able to use the technology when it comes to your "real" Vietnam War history forums and assignments which will comprise a major part of your grade in this class. It never hurts to get the technical issues out of the way from the very start of the class. Also, by reading and replying to one another's posts, you may find someone (or more than one) in this class with whom you may wish to work over the course of the term... someone to run your papers by for ideas or proofreading, or someone to study with for exams or chat about the videos your watching and the books you are reading. Who knows what academic relationships may emerge? Regardless, I thought I would at least present the opportunity. It'll be easy to see the author names in the forum's subject lines and find out who picked the same historical quote as you did.

#3

Using technology includes many things. In this assignment, you'll be using Moodle, but you will also be copying and pasting text from a pdf file to your word processor, and from your word processor to the web. Once you've written your response and are ready to submit it, just click on my START HERE post below. To make your "post", click the reply link in MY post, and copy and paste your response into the appropriate fields (remembering to put the name of the author of the quote in the subject line).

This is meant as a low pressure assignment, with no right or wrong answer, and should take you between 15 and 30 minutes to complete (depending on how quickly you type). Your "real" Vietnam War-related assignments will require much more time and effort than this one.

Submit your post before the Wednesday, 11:55pm deadline, the earlier the better. After you make your post, you will then read the posts made by your classmates AND reply to at least one other student's post. Throughout this course, to reply to another student's specific post, be sure to click on the the reply link located on their individual post. All replies are due by the Sunday, 11:55pm deadline.

Remember, this is a public forum, where all students enrolled in this class can read what you write. Don't disclose any personal or other inappropriate information you wouldn't want made public. Also, be sure you write your paragraph in a word processor, check for spelling and grammar, and copy and paste it into your forum post. Poor spelling, grammar, or awkward writing doesn't make a good impression on anyone.

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