



## **Liberal Studies Program**

*Signature Assignment for LST 471*

*Family History Essay*

### **Student Learning Outcome(s) Assessed:**

SLO #4: Demonstrate proficiency in history and social science subject matter.

### **Description of the Signature Assignment**

This assignment is designed to give you the opportunity to explore your own family's history in the context of the social, historical, geographic, political, and economic forces that have shaped California and the United States. In addition to a brief summary of what events or trends you believe may have motivated your family to come to California in particular, or perhaps to the United States in general, you will also put together an annotated bibliography of works that provide information about the context of your family's migration, or about their ethnic identity, or both.

This capstone course has emphasized the social science concepts and principles that prospective teachers must master in order to help their students understand complex social phenomena. This Family History Project asks you to engage in the role of a social scientist and apply those concepts and principles to the primary resources you uncover regarding your family's migration to California.

### **Directions for Students**

The first part of your Family History Project is a three to five page essay in which you summarize the factors involved in your family's migration to California. This can be as personal, or as general, as you care to make it. You should address which side of your family you have chosen and why. You should also address what historical questions you are attempting to answer. Your essays should be typed, double-spaced, on white paper, with standard fonts and margins.

### Scoring Rubric:

Criteria	4	3	2	1	0	X	Score
Mechanics	Competence in all the following: - clear transitions - logical flow of ideas - appropriate word choice - coherent paragraph structure syntax, grammar and spelling	Competence is demonstrated in three of the initial criteria listed. Minor errors.	Competence is demonstrated in two of the initial criteria listed. Larger numbers of errors.	Competence is not demonstrated in a majority of or in only one of the initial criteria listed.	Competence is not demonstrated in any of the initial criteria listed.	5	<hr/> 20
Comprehension	Competence demonstrated in: - essay is on task - assignment is understood - conveys an understanding of the assigned course readings and research assignment	Competence is demonstrated in the initial criteria listed, understanding is clear.	Competence is demonstrated in the initial criteria listed, some issues are unclear.	Competence is demonstrated in the initial criteria listed, conveys a general lack of understanding.	Competence is not demonstrated initial criteria, an understanding of course readings is not clear.	8.5	<hr/> 34
Argument	Competence demonstrated in: - thesis statement establishes relevant argument that provides internal logic in essay - analytical tone and argument are established and maintained - arguments are consistently substantiated with direct evidence from readings and evidence - evidence is provided from breadth of sources and with sophistication.	Competence is demonstrated in three of the initial criteria listed. May lack in sophistication or analysis.	Competence is demonstrated in two of the initial criteria listed. Issues exist in multiple criteria areas.	Competence is demonstrated in one of the initial criteria listed. Issues may exist with several of the criteria.	Competence is not demonstrated in any of the initial criteria listed. No thesis. No internal structure. Fails to support with evidence.	8.5	<hr/> 34

Criteria	4	3	2	1	0	X	Score
Genre Specific Criteria	Competence demonstrated in: - paper connects to course materials - provides analysis of prompt-specific research, lends historical context to argument - paper facilitates understanding of larger ideas in history - Critical thinking is evident	Competence is demonstrated in three of the initial criteria listed.	Competence is demonstrated in two of the initial criteria listed.	Competence is demonstrated in one of the initial criteria listed.	Competence is not demonstrated in any of the initial criteria listed.	3	<hr/> 12

### Legend

Total Points	College of Education Assessment Scale Equivalent
100-90	4 (Exceeds Expectations)
89-80	3 (Meets Expectations)
79-70	2 (Meets Some Expectations)
69-60	1 (Does Not Meet Expectations)
59 and lower	0 (Can't Score)