

Instructions:

Choose **ONE** of the following superlative categories and determine which leader/colony/event you believe fits the description best. Write a paper that effectively makes that argument using **specific historical examples**. More details are below.

Worst Colonial Leader	Best Colonial Leader
Most Successful Settlement	Worst Disaster
Most Democratic Government	Most Repressive Government
Most Important "seed of future independence or revolution"	

Your paper should be arranged as such:

Introduction – A clear introductory paragraph that presents a **solid thesis**, or main argument for the paper. Do not simply state your topic and the leader, colony or event you chose. Instead, make an effective argument that you will be able to prove in this paper.

3-4 Substantial Body Paragraphs – These paragraphs should begin with a topic sentence and include:

- **Specific supporting evidence** for your argument (specific historical examples, not just general statements)
- Analysis (a **clear argument** linking the evidence to the thesis)

Conclusion – A paragraph that wraps-up your argument and “seals the deal.” A good conclusion does not simply repeat what has already been written.

Citations:

You are not required to do any outside research for this paper, though you may do so if you wish. Simply use your textbooks and what we have learned in class. **HOWEVER**, since you will be including specific historical examples and you will have to get that information from somewhere (i.e. textbooks), you **must** provide proper in-text citations and a works cited page. This includes information not necessarily quoted or paraphrased, but originating from somewhere outside your brain. For example:

Non-Separatist Puritans sailed to Massachusetts Bay in 1630 (Danzer 50-51). ← This is not a quote, nor is it paraphrased from anything in the book. But, I gained this information from the book, therefore it must be cited in-text and on the works cited page in MLA format.

Other Formatting Notes:

- A separate cover page is not needed;
- Margins should be set at 1" on all four sides;
- Standard fonts should be used and set at a rating of 10-12 points (no higher);
- The paper should be at least 1-2 full pages, typed and double-spaced, and no more than four (4) pages;
- **Spelling/Grammar:** You are expected as a junior student in an honors course to write well. Proofread!
- **VERY IMPORTANT: Please read the Writing Advice handout posted to our class website.**

Submission: This paper is to be submitted online to Turnitin.com no later than 7:50 AM on Monday, August 29th. Late papers will lose points from the total score. Please consult the Papers & Electronic Communications Policies document posted to our class website.

Paper 1 Rubric

Outstanding Paper, score (depending on effectiveness): 100 95

- Paper has a clear introduction and thesis that presents an effective and complete argument;
- Supporting paragraphs contain adequate, specific evidence to prove the argument;
- Supporting paragraphs contain enough analysis that makes a compelling argument;
- All instructions are met;
- Historical information presented is accurate;
- Paper is well organized and well written;
- Proper MLA format, any sources used cited correctly.

Excellent Paper, score (depending on effectiveness): 92 90 88

One of the above areas not effective or minor error (as noted):

Good Paper, score (depending on effectiveness): 85 82 80

- Paper does contain a thesis with an acceptable introduction;
- Supporting paragraphs contain some evidence and analysis to prove an argument (level of evidence and analysis affects scoring);
- Paper is mostly well organized and written;
- Most research sources are used effectively.
- May/may not have imbalance or slight inaccuracies that do not affect the overall argument.
- Proper MLA format; any sources used cited correctly (must apply to receive a grade in this category)

Fair Paper, score (depending on effectiveness): 78 75 72 70

- Paper does not have enough evidence and analysis to make an effective argument (automatic);
- May contain few major errors;

Poor Paper, score (depending on errors/conditions): 68 65 62 60

- Many errors in paper, OR
- Insufficient evidence and/or analysis to fulfill requirements (as noted)

Failing Paper, score (depending on errors/conditions): 50 40 30 20

- Paper fails to meet the requirements of the assignment;
- Paper may be completely off-topic.

Rubric Score _____ **- 1 pt. per major spelling/grammar error** **FINAL SCORE** _____