

# Individual Research Reflection: Bridging Scholarship and Public History

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## Assignment Overview

As you prepare for your final persuasive research paper and public history project, this reflection will help you clarify your topic, articulate your research goals, and begin thinking about how your work can be translated into a compelling public history format. Public history requires you to share your research beyond the classroom—to make complex ideas accessible, engaging, and relevant to broader audiences.

This is your opportunity to analyze your research direction and plan how your paper and public history project will work in conversation with one another.

## Reflection Guidelines

In 1–2 double-spaced pages, respond to the prompts below. Use this reflection to organize your thinking and document your progress.

### 1. Research Topic and Rationale

- What is the historical question or issue you are exploring in your persuasive research paper?
- Why is this topic important—historically and in the present day?
- What sparked your interest in this subject?

### 2. Research Basis

- Identify your primary source and two secondary sources.
- Why are these sources valuable for your topic?
- How do they support your analysis?

### 3. Public History Project Vision

- How will your public history project reflect the core argument of your paper?
- What format are you considering for the public project (e.g., podcast, poster exhibit, digital timeline, zine, museum label set)?
- How will you adapt your scholarly argument for a public audience?

## Requirements

- 1–2 pages, double-spaced
- Include at least one primary and two secondary sources in MLA format
- Submit as a Word or PDF document