

ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT

After two weeks of primary source documents, secondary sources, and images, students will be asked to create a thesis collage to answer the following question:

Why did the cultural exchange between Europeans, Americans, and West Africans follow the path it did? What do you think are the most important events, forces, and/or conditions that led to this outcome?

For the thesis collage, Students will be required to create a poster consisting of a statement of their argument (thesis) and at least six (6) excerpts of the unit's documents supporting their thesis. Students will have class time to work on this project, though it will not be due until the end of the week. In addition to the thesis collage poster, each student will have to write a brief project reflection guided by the questions:

- 1) What new learning did you construct as a result of this assignment?
- 2) What evidence did you leave out? Why?
- 3) Unlike a research paper, you were allowed to make only brief comments next to the evidence you selected.
What was the effect of this restriction on your final product?
How did it help? How was it an obstacle?

Rubric for Alternative Assessment: Thesis Collage

An “A” project will include:

- More than six pieces of evidence that clearly and logically support your interpretation (thesis)
- A clear and reasonable organization of your sources into different categories (by type, culture, historical condition, etc...)
- Reflection is thoughtful and answers all three questions completely

A “B” Project will include:

- Six or more pieces of evidence that mostly support your thesis
- A successful attempt to organize the evidence into categories or groups
- Project is neat, well presented, and clearly thought-out
- Reflection is thoughtful and answers the questions thoroughly

A “C” Project will include:

- At least six sources that connect to the thesis

- Little attempt to organize the evidence into categories or groups
- Project is clearly presented, and clearly thought-out
- Reflection is thoughtful but incomplete

An unacceptable Project will include:

- less than six sources used
- no attempt to organize the evidence into categories or groups
- Project is poorly presented or confusing
- Reflection is incomplete or missing