

PAPER ASSIGNMENT #1 – HIST 101

To complete this assignment you must write a 500-to-1000-word essay considering ONE of the following questions. You must use 12-point “Times New Roman” font, double-spaced, with 1” margins. To receive full credit, you need to correctly cite *at least* one example **from a primary source in the *Perspectives from the Past* reader** to support your argument/answer. Citations should be in Chicago/Turabian format (for examples, see pg. 112 of Mary Rampolla’s *A Pocket Guide to Writing History* or <http://bit.ly/KrFvv>). While I do not expect a research paper, I do anticipate that these essays will reflect your ability to think critically and creatively. This paper will be due in class on **October 1st** for Section 400, and on **October 2nd** for Section 401.

QUESTIONS:

1. Using historical examples and at least one primary source, respond to the following statement: resisting cultural assimilation is futile.
2. One major theme of this course is the importance of religion in developing political and social cultures. Compare a contemporary religious culture with an ancient religious culture that we’ve discussed. In your comparison, explain how your chosen examples impacted the cultures in which they emerged and how they were affected by those same cultures.
3. During and after the Persian Wars, the Greeks were relatively successful in defining themselves as a ‘Western’ culture drastically different from the Persian ‘East’. Today, you live in a society dominated by values and ideas associated with ‘the West’. After identifying the historical origin of at least one of these ideas/values, explain whether or not you believe that idea or value has had a positive impact on your community.