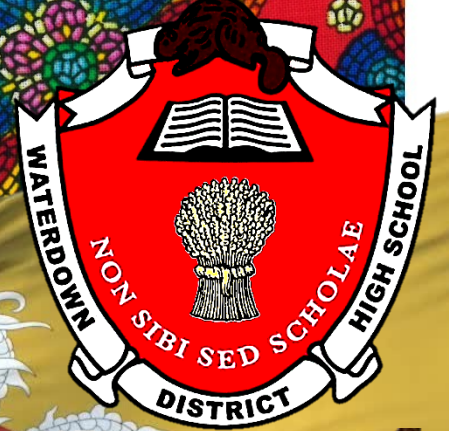


CUY 4U1: Final Research Paper



Preparing for post-secondary education – The Academic Research Paper

Exploring the World's History, Identity and Culture

The research paper is the most challenging task students encounter in senior history courses (as well as post-secondary programs). Writing a sound historical research essay requires an ability to carry out in-depth research, make effective notes, formulate and defend a clear thesis, apply critical, analytical and creative thinking skills, and organize information in a logical and coherent fashion. On top of all of this, a formal essay must be effectively written and accurately documented. **It is critical that students write this research paper entirely in their own words; the use of AI systems to generate or revise content is not permitted and constitutes a violation of academic integrity.**

Students will select an essay topic of particular interest to them, within our course's time period, and write a paper arguing how their event, idea, person, or place shaped or impacted the modern world. Select your topic carefully. Topics that focus on other disciplines or on current events are not likely to be approved – there must be appropriate research material available to you.



Issued February 13th, 2026

Research Paper Specifications

Your research paper **MUST** adhere to the following specifications:

- ✓ 1500-2000 words
- ✓ double-spaced, typed 12-point, Times New Roman font OR Arial font
- ✓ Every page (except the cover page) must be numbered in the upper, right-hand corner.
- ✓ Use properly formatted **FOOTNOTES (Chicago Style)**
- ✓ Have a bibliography in Chicago style that cites at least four academic books or articles and **only academic websites** (NOT Wikipedia!!).
- ✓ Students must submit an **Essay Outline** (the same one developed by the English Department) to Mr. Tidridge which will be evaluated.
- ✓ **Avoid use of GenAI systems. Using AI to produce this assignment, or any other for this course, is not permitted.** All work submitted for evaluation must be the student's original work. The submission of any work containing AI generated content will be considered a violation of academic integrity will be given a "0" and the department and school administration will be consulted regarding next steps.¹

2026 Research Paper Due Dates

Topic Proposal Due	Flexible – consult with Mr Tidridge when you have a possible topic.
Thesis Statement handed in (via the Hub) for evaluation	March 26 th , 2026
Submission of Essay Outline for Evaluation	April 23 rd , 2026 (Late marks will be applied if the Outline is submitted after this deadline)
FINAL COPY OF ESSAY DUE	May 28th, 2026 (Late marks will be applied if the essay is submitted after this deadline)

IMPORTANT

All papers must be submitted to the HUB:



Once submitted, the papers will be screened for plagiarism and/or GenAI systems. If you have violated the academic integrity of this assignment, it will be given an automatic zero and be referred to the Department of Canadian and World Studies, as well as the school administration.

¹ Generative artificial intelligence (Generative AI or GenAI) is a category of AI systems capable of generating text, images, or other media in response to prompts. These systems include ChatGPT and its variants Bing (built by OpenAI) and Bard (built by Google) among several others. Other Generative AI models include artificial intelligence art systems such as Stable Diffusion, Midjourney, and DALL-E. Source: [Lakehead University](#)



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