

## Writing Activity

### Selecting a Paper Topic

As a part of this course, will draft a 5-7 page research paper due Tues. 4/16. We are starting the research process early in the semester and building our writing step by step. The first step in this process is to select a paper topic. Follow the below steps to get started:

- A) Visit the Writing Resource Center in Blackboard and familiarize yourself with the resources available.
- B) Read the paper topics listed below.
- C) Pick a topic that is of interest.
- D) Complete the course reading that is related to the paper topic in order to gain an understanding of the main issues
- E) Submit your typed response to the paper topic questions below by 9am on Tues. 2/5

### PAPER TOPICS

1. Discuss how and why capitalism, nationalism and/or militarism may be considered central to imperialism. Examine a specific era and/or place. *Questions to consider:* Was capitalism a driving force or a consequence of imperialism, or both? What is the socio-economic heritage of imperialism? Are there certain times or ways in which nationalism may be acknowledged or celebrated which may shed light on our understanding of imperialism? How may the expansion or rebuilding of borders with military force be related to imperialism?
2. Discuss the processes of decolonization. Examine a specific era and/or place. *Questions to consider:* What were the motivating factors, strategies, successes and/or obstacles? Where there measure established to ensure the continuity of colonialism?
3. Discuss anti-colonial and anti-imperialist acts of resistance and movements. Examine a specific era and/or place. *Questions to consider:* What were the motivating factors, strategies, successes and/or obstacles?
4. Discuss medicine, birthing or technology as tool of imperial expansion and/or an anti-imperial tool. Examine a specific acts or strategies emerging from a particular place or a medium, technique, etc. *Questions to consider:* What may the strategies, formats or techniques utilized tell us about intent or access?
5. Discuss ruin and ruination in consideration of the heritage of imperialism. Questions to consider: In what ways do the continuities continue to live (in physical and non-physical entities)? What is our role in cultivating or combating the vestiges of imperialism?

### PAPER TOPIC QUESTIONS

Answer each of the following questions/ prompts.

1. Which paper topic have you chosen?
2. Which course reading did you review in preparation?

3. Discuss what you learned about the topic from the course reading related to the topic. Be specific and engage the reading directly. (5 sentence minimum)

4. Do you have any questions about the research or the assignment? If you do, share your questions below.