**Oral History Essay Information**

**4-5 pages, Calibri or Times New Roman Font, 12 pt font size**

**Your essay will be EMAILED to me**

With this written assignment, you will be showcasing your ability to write clearly using correct grammar and capitalization, analyze an informational text (the oral history and other documents related to your essay), and research a historical event.

*Your topic*

1. Place the individual’s experiences and/or perspective within a larger historical or social context

*Your process*

1. Research your nationality and learn the country from where you ancestors came from. You can find this through a family interview or an online search tool such as ancestry.com.
2. Find an oral history interview of a person from that country, through online archives. After viewing and analyzing the interview, select a social or historical event the person lived through or witnessed. Use your “Analyzing Tool” handout to help guide you!
3. Research the selected historical/social event. You will use your oral history and at least 2 other sources (scholarly, secondary) for additional reference.
4. Compare the information of your historical/social event with the information gained from the oral history.
5. Write your essay!
   1. Be sure to include as much biographical detail on the interviewee as possible
   2. Describe the historical/social event and your interviewee’s experience of that event (the personal experience will be learned through the oral history).
   3. Are there common themes you notice? Racism, politics, patriotism? Explain those and their connection with your sources and the oral history.
   4. What was your reaction after learning about this information? Did you learn anything new about a time period, social event, or historical event that took place? Were you surprised at any particular treatment of the people? Knowing you may have had some ancestors go through a similar experience, how does that make you feel?