# Oklahoma National History Day: Suggested Timeline

## Basic Outline—Fall Semester Course

| **August/September** | Introduction to History Day  
• Read rule book and discuss the theme  
Building Historical Thinking and Research Skills  
• How to conduct research; how to construct a bibliography  
• Primary and secondary sources  
Topic and Category Selection  
• Work on finding and narrowing topics  
• Decide category and group or individual entry |
| **October** | Research  
• Begin secondary source research using library resources  
• Identify additional sources using bibliographies of secondary sources |
| **Mid-October** | Research  
• Continue secondary source research and begin primary source research  
• Make use of digital archives throughout the research process  
Thesis Development  
• Construct a strong, clear thesis statement  
Project Development  
• Begin creating entry  
• Identify any images to be used in the project |
| **November** | Project Development  
• Continue constructing entry  
Evaluate Progress  
• Preliminary bibliography due  
• Outline/storyboard/rough draft due  
• Thesis statement due  
Revision  
• Use teacher feedback to improve project |
| **December** | Project Development  
• Finalize entry  
• Present and seek feedback from peers and adults  
Evaluate Progress  
• Finalize thesis statement  
• Final bibliographies due  
• Final project due  
School and District Competitions  
• Prepare for presentation and interview questions at the competition  
• Present project at regional contests (late February–April) |
| **March/April** | Revision  
• State qualifiers continue to research and improve project based on judges’ feedback from regional competitions |
| **May** | State Competition  
• State History Day Contest at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City |
| **May/June** | Revision  
• National qualifiers revise projects for the national competition |
| **June** | National Competition  
• National History Day Contest in College Park, Maryland |

*After the semester is over in December, students’ projects should be completed, even though they will not compete until the spring semester. (History Day projects can easily be started in the spring semester as well.)*