

Oklahoma National History Day
Suggested Timeline for Paper Category Yearlong Course

August/ September	<p>Introduction to History Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read rulebook • Discuss theme <p>Building Historical Thinking and Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to conduct research • Primary and secondary documents • How to construct a bibliography <p>Topic and Category Selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on finding and narrowing topics • Decide category and group or individual entry <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin secondary source research (books and journal articles) using library resources—look for background information on event/individual and time period
October	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use secondary source bibliographies and citations to look for primary sources • Begin primary source research (newspapers and published memoirs or recollections) • Explore other avenues—call or email professionals, scholars, or witnesses to the topic; conduct interviews; etc. • Become familiar with the correct method of citing sources <p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop bibliography <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of October: students have 2–5 secondary source books and 2–5 secondary source journal articles
November	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue research—look for other available primary sources (letters, diaries, photographs, government documents, census records, etc.) <p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start putting pieces together to create an outline of paper (i.e., introduction, body, conclusion) • Keep bibliography up to date <p>Thesis Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this topic relate to the theme? • Why is this topic important or significant? • Use the answers to these questions to begin constructing a thesis statement <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of November: students have 3 primary source newspaper articles, 5 other primary sources, and 10 secondary sources (combination of books, journal articles, and other secondary sources); <u>and</u> outline of the paper

November continued	<p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use teacher feedback to improve project
December	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue research <p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin writing using the outline to guide thoughts • Use correct citations • Strengthen and clarify the thesis • Keep bibliography up to date <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of December: students have at least 10 secondary sources and 10 primary sources • The thesis statement should be strong and clear • Should have first pages written with correct citations <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use teacher feedback to improve project
January	<p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue writing a paper using correct citations • Make the title page • Keep bibliography up to date <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary bibliography due: students have at least 12–15 secondary sources and 12–15 primary sources • Rough draft (3-6 pages of text in addition to title page) due • Thesis statement due <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use teacher feedback to improve project
February	<p>Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish writing paper and bibliography • Present and seek feedback from peers and adults <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final bibliographies and papers due <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use feedback from teacher, peers, and adults to improve paper before regional contest <p>School and District Competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for presentation and interview questions at the competition • <u>MUST</u> mail paper at least 2 weeks prior to district competitions • Present project at regional contests (late February–April)
March/April	<p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State qualifiers continue to research and improve project based on judges' feedback from

	<p>regional competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MUST</u> mail paper at by April 15 in order to compete in the state competition
May	<p>State Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State History Day Contest at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City
May/June	<p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National qualifiers revise projects for the national competition
June	<p>National Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National History Day Contest in College Park, Maryland