

## Oklahoma National History Day

### Timeline for Performance Category for Yearlong Course

<b>August/ September</b>	<p>Introduction to History Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read rulebook</li> <li>• Discuss the theme</li> </ul> <p>Building Historical Thinking and Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to conduct research</li> <li>• Primary and secondary documents</li> <li>• How to construct a bibliography</li> </ul> <p>Topic and Category Selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on finding and narrowing topics</li> <li>• Decide category and group or individual entry</li> </ul> <p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin secondary source research (books and journal articles) using library resources—look for background information on event/individual and time period</li> </ul>
<b>October</b>	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use secondary source bibliographies and citations to look for primary sources</li> <li>• Begin primary source research (newspapers, published memoirs or recollections)</li> <li>• Explore new avenues—call or email professionals, scholars, or witnesses to the topic; conduct interviews; etc.</li> </ul> <p>Project Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create basic storyline and character outlines</li> <li>• Consider props, costumes, sets, and any multimedia to be used</li> <li>• Create bibliography</li> <li>• Begin writing the process paper</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the end of October: students have 2-5 secondary source books and 2-5 secondary source journal articles; basic storyline and character outlines</li> </ul>
<b>November</b>	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue research—look for other available primary sources (letters, diaries, photographs, government documents, census records, etc.)</li> <li>• Take note of any quotes that might be used in performance</li> </ul> <p>Thesis Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does this topic relate to the theme?</li> <li>• Why is this topic important or significant?</li> <li>• Use the answers to these questions to begin constructing a thesis statement</li> </ul> <p>Project Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin writing script</li> </ul>

<p><b>November Cont.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin gathering props and making costumes and sets</li> <li>• Keep bibliography up to date</li> <li>• Continue writing process paper</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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); should have first scenes scripted; preliminary thesis statement</li> </ul> <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use teacher feedback to improve project</li> </ul>
<p><b>December</b></p>	<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue research</li> </ul> <p>Project Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue writing script</li> <li>• Continue gathering props and making costumes and sets</li> <li>• Begin working on any multimedia elements of the performance</li> <li>• Begin rehearsing performance</li> <li>• Strengthen and clarify the thesis</li> <li>• Keep bibliography up to date</li> <li>• Continue writing process paper</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the end of December: students have at least 10 secondary sources and 10 primary sources</li> <li>• The thesis statement should be strong and clear</li> </ul> <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use teacher feedback to improve project</li> </ul>
<p><b>January</b></p>	<p>Project Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish script</li> <li>• Finish gathering props and making costumes and sets</li> <li>• Finish working on any multimedia elements of the performance</li> <li>• Practice—rehearse performance as often as possible</li> <li>• Keep bibliography up to date</li> <li>• Finish process paper</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary bibliography due: students have at least 12–15 secondary sources and 12–15 primary sources</li> <li>• Thesis statement due</li> <li>• Turn in script</li> </ul> <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use teacher feedback to improve project</li> </ul>

<p><b>February</b></p>	<p>Project Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize script</li> <li>• Make final alterations to costumes and sets; have props and media ready</li> <li>• Practice—rehearse performance as often as possible</li> <li>• Finalize bibliography</li> <li>• Perform dress rehearsal and seek feedback from peers and adults</li> </ul> <p>Evaluate Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final bibliographies and process papers due</li> <li>• Performances due—teacher may require live or recorded performance</li> </ul> <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use feedback from teacher, peers, and adults to improve project before regional contest</li> </ul> <p>School and District Competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare for presentation and interview questions at competition</li> <li>• Present project at regional contests (late February–April)</li> </ul>
<p><b>March/April</b></p>	<p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State qualifiers continue to research and improve project based on judges’ feedback from regional competitions</li> </ul>
<p><b>May</b></p>	<p>State Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State History Day Contest at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City</li> </ul>
<p><b>May/June</b></p>	<p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National qualifiers revise projects for the national competition</li> </ul>
<p><b>June</b></p>	<p>National Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National History Day Contest in College Park, Maryland</li> </ul>