

History 43

Primary Source Analysis Paper (75 points) is **due March 29**

Copy of primary source, outline, works cited, & introductory paragraph (15 points) **March 15**
Late essays will not be accepted.

Provide a title for your essay that is engaging. The essay is to be 3-5 pages in length, typed, 12-size font, double-spaced, and turned in as a hard copy on the due date. The essay requires that you consult secondary sources (Wikipedia or Wikipedia-like websites are no acceptable secondary sources). All papers must be stapled. You will lose 5 points if you turn in unstapled papers. Be sure to include a Works Cited page with sources listed in alphabetical order and in the MLA format;

Brinkley, Alan. The Unfinished Nation. New York: Knopf. 1993.19-56.

Author Title of Book City Published, Publishing Company, pages

The first thing you must do is find a primary source. I strongly recommend the book *Major Problems in Mexican American History* by Zaragosa Vargas. A copy of the text is on reserve in the library. The essay assignment will require a close reading of a primary source. The essay should begin with an introductory paragraph followed by four to six paragraphs that answer the assigned questions.

Your analysis must answer the following questions:

1. What kind of primary source is the document?
2. Who wrote the document?
3. When was the document written?
4. Who is the intended audience?
5. Are there any key individuals mentioned in the source?
6. Are any historical events discussed in the document?
7. What is the author's background or position in society? How does the author's background shape his or her view on a particular subject?
8. What do the secondary sources say about the author, historical period, or historical event?
9. Explain the historical context of the primary source. Which related historical events occurred at the time of the writing of the document?
10. What is the author's bias? What does the author feel strongly in favor of or strongly against?

The conclusion should summarize your main points about the primary source. The essay must be in your own words. You need to include at least 2 quotes in your paper from two secondary sources. Feel free to consult me at any time. I'd be happy to provide you with feedback.

