

### *Making History Work*

For this assignment you must:

- 1) Select a news article related to marriage in the U.S. that was published **within the last year in a reputable news source**. If you have a question about whether your source is reputable, ask me.
- 2) Analyze that article
- 3) Apply everything you've learned this term so that you can explain the context of the events/ideas at the heart of the article more deeply. Think about context broadly! You will always want to bear in mind historical context, but you may want to think about the intellectual context, the cultural, the religious, the legal, and/or the economic.
- 4) **You do not need to do extra research**. You should be able to supply context to your article by referencing class readings, discussions, and documentaries.
- 5) Talk to me if you have *any* questions.

#### Checklist

- Your paper should have a thesis statement that appears in your introductory paragraph. Each successive paragraph should help build an argument in support of your thesis. Your paper must also have a conclusion.
- It is a good idea to follow the rule of one idea per paragraph. Each paragraph should develop that idea with evidence – a one or two sentence paragraph is therefore not developed. A paragraph that runs for most of a page is likely to contain too many ideas.
- The first line of each paragraph is a topic sentence – it must accurately describe the material the paragraph will cover, while also connecting back to your thesis.
- You may not use Wikipedia or other encyclopedia articles, be they online or offline, in this essay.
- Cite your sources carefully, using footnotes that follow the rules set out in the *Chicago Manual of Style*.
- Your paper should be 6 to 8 pages long.
- Use 12 point font (approximately the size you see on this assignment sheet).
- Your essay must be double-spaced
- A final version of your paper must be uploaded to Classroom no later than Sunday, March 13 at 11.29am.

If you have questions, feel free to come see me in my office hours, or email me at any time.

UNEXCUSED LATE PAPERS WILL RECEIVE THE GRADE OF F