Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**US History Project-Founding Father Project-Due January 15, 2015**

Choose of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence. Complete a one –to –three page typed MLA Format biographical essay on that person. Create a Source Cited page.

**Format of Essay**

**You will write a 800 - 1000 word essay on your person. This is a good organization pattern to follow in the writing of the essay. You do not have to follow this organization; it is only a suggestion.**

Introduction - the introduction will likely only be 4-5 sentences.  Catch reader's interests with an attention getter, perhaps a questions or interesting fact about your person.  Then write a thesis statement, a sentence telling the audience the topic of the essay.

The Early Years - This section should cover the early years of the person’s life. Begin all paragraphs with a topic sentence, then give supporting details.  Remember, you aren't trying to summarize everything about your person, there are books about him/her.  Give details about 2 or 4 important/interesting things or events from their early life.

Adult Life - This section will discuss the adult life of the person you choose.  Begin all paragraphs with a topic sentence, then give supporting details. Give details about 2 or 4 important/interesting things or events from their adult life.

Contribution(s) to American/world History - This section is important because it is the reason you chose this person.  This section should include the major events that make this person interesting and/or have changed their lives. Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence, then give supporting details. Describe at least two contributions to history your person has made.

Conclusion - the conclusion will likely be only 5- 7 sentences.  Summarize for the reader what your report was about.  Then make a statement or ask a question that lets the reader know your report is over.

**Paper Format**

Below are some basic guidelines for formatting a paper in *MLA style.*

**General Guidelines**

* Type your paper on a computer and print it out on standard, white 8.5 x 11-inch paper.
* Double-space the text of your paper, and use a legible font (e.g. Arial). Whatever font you choose, MLA recommends that the regular and italics type styles contrast enough that they are recognizable one from another. The font size should be 12 pt.
* Leave only one space after periods or other punctuation marks (unless otherwise instructed by your instructor).
* Set the margins of your document to 1 inch on all sides.
* Indent the first line of paragraphs one half-inch from the left margin. MLA recommends that you use the Tab key as opposed to pushing the Space Bar five times.
* Create a header that numbers all pages consecutively in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin. (Note: Your instructor may ask that you omit the number on your first page. Always follow your instructor's guidelines.)
* Use italics throughout your essay for the titles of longer works and, only when absolutely necessary, providing emphasis.

**Formatting the First Page of Your Paper**

* Do not make a title page for your paper unless specifically requested.
* In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, list your name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date. Again, be sure to use double-spaced text.
* Double space again and center the title. Do not underline, italicize, or place your title in quotation marks; write the title in Title Case (standard capitalization), not in all capital letters.
* Use quotation marks and/or italics when referring to other works in your title, just as you would in your text: *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* as Morality Play; Human Weariness in "After Apple Picking"
* Double space between the title and the first line of the text.
* Create a header in the upper right-hand corner that includes your last name, followed by a space with a page number; number all pages consecutively with Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.), one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin. (Note: Your instructor or other readers may ask that you omit last name/page number header on your first page. Always follow instructor guidelines.)