

Your assignment was to demonstrate your critical thinking skills analyzing a primary source from our *American Empire* document reader and argue what you think it reveals about U.S. imperialism and relations with Latin America around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

*Historical Argument:* Does your project make a compelling argument about your primary source and what it reveals about American empire?

- Yes, you present a strong, persuasive argument about your primary source and its larger historical significance.
- Mostly, you present a clear overview of your source and its historical significance.
- Somewhat, you present interesting information, but the argument is not fully developed.
- No, you present an introduction to your source, but no argument.

*Author Analysis:* Does your essay demonstrate thoughtful analysis of the source's creator, purpose, and contents?

- Yes, you demonstrate excellent analysis of how your primary source reflects the author's point-of-view, purpose, methods, and intended audience.
- Mostly, you present a clear and logical analysis of the author's point-of-view, purpose, methods, & audience.
- Somewhat, you discuss your primary source, but could present more in-depth analysis.
- No, your analysis pays insufficient attention to the author's perspective, intent, or methodology.

*Primary Source Analysis:* Do you present a nuanced and insightful analysis of the source and what it reveals?

- Yes, you present a nuanced, balanced analysis of the primary source and what it reveals.
- Mostly, your essay demonstrates clear insight into the source.
- Somewhat, you demonstrate a competent use of primary sources, but could consider more aspects of the text.
- No, your essay is too descriptive.

*Use of Evidence:* Do you provide multiple, well-chosen examples to back up your claims?

- Yes, you present multiple relevant examples to support your analysis.
- Mostly, you give a clear indication of the relationship between your evidence and main ideas.
- Somewhat, you use examples but need to provide more information about how they fit together.
- No, your essay lacks sufficient examples.

*Historical Context:* Does your essay link your source analysis to the larger historical context?

- Yes, your project draws on specific, insightful historical examples to place your research within a larger context of U.S./Latin American history.
- Mostly, you use concrete, relevant examples from your research, and clearly explain how they relate to your larger argument.
- Somewhat, you use some examples from your research to support your analysis, but the connections to the larger historical context could be clearer.
- No, your project does not incorporate enough relevant historical context OR you incorporate too much less relevant detail.

*Conclusions:* Do you present a strong conclusion that highlights your argument's larger significance? Answer the "so what?" question?

- Yes, you have an intriguing larger point that helps make connections between your analysis and larger course themes.
- Mostly, your essay ends with a logical conclusion based primarily on essay findings.
- Somewhat, although your take away message and its relevance could be clearer. Or you might have a conclusion that is so broad that it applies well beyond the scope of this essay.
- No, your conclusion is ambiguous or unsupported. Or you have no clear conclusion.

*Clear Communication:* Is your essay well written?

- Yes, your essay has a well-organized structure, a logical presentation of ideas, and clear and precise language.
- Mostly, your essay is well-organized, with minor issues of clarity and/or language.
- Somewhat, although there are some writing issues that make the communication of your ideas less effective.
- No, there are significant writing issues that undermine the communication of your ideas.

*Ethical Use of Information:* Did you provide full information on all of the sources you employed for your project? Is the distinction between your work and that of others clear?

- Yes, you correctly cite and provide full references for all outside sources of information.
- Mostly, while you make the source for all images, quotes, and paraphrases clear, there are minor formatting issues in your citations.
- No, your acknowledgement of the contributions of others' ideas to your project is inadequate.

*Professionalism & Attention to the Project Guidelines:* Did you meet the project guidelines?

- Yes, your project includes all of the required elements.
- Mostly, you've completed most of the required elements.
- No, you are missing a significant element of this project.

*Comments:*