

**PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS TRIO:
Group Podcast
Individual Essay
Group Public Engagement Projects**

Over the course of the semester, you will undertake a research project with multiple parts. Based on your rankings on the introduction form, you will be assigned to one of seven thematic groups:

1. Grappling with the Nazi Past
2. Ideology and National Identities
3. Consumer Societies
4. The Wall and the German-German Border
5. Gender and Sexuality
6. New Political and Social Movements
7. Unification and Its Aftermath

Each group will include 3 to 4 people, a combination of people with avatars from East and West Germany. Each of you will do research about the assigned theme in the context of East or West Germany, focusing on the country that corresponds to your avatar (i.e., those of you with avatars from East Germany will explore the theme in East German history). "East Germans" will also be required to conduct research at the Wende Museum in Culver City, and there are two classes when those students will travel to the museum for on-site research.

This research will result in three outcomes:

Group Podcast: Each group will produce a podcast, 30-45 minutes in length, in which you will discuss the assigned theme in East and West Germany. This should be a discussion, with each of you contributing on the basis of their research, with the result that you compare developments in East and West Germany. In doing so, you should draw on evidence from the readings and your research, for example, by citing specific examples or episodes and by quoting from primary or secondary sources.

Analytical Essay: Individually, you will write an analytical essay, where you develop a historical argument around your assigned theme in the context of the history of your avatar's country, with comparisons to the "other" Germany as appropriate. As an epilogue to your essay, you should also include 2-3 paragraphs where you relate the theme to your avatar. Finally, you should select which 2 avatar entries you think your strongest, as I will put together a class timeline or storymap with at least one entry from each of you. The essay should be approximately 5-7 pages in length.

Public History Project: Each group will also translate its research into two public history projects, one analog and one digital. The analog project may be either a “free history lesson,” where you talk to people about German history at the piece of the Berlin Wall on Campus, or an “in-stall history” installation, where you prepare 1-2 posters and then “install” them in bathrooms across campus. The digital project may either be a social media takeover of the History Instagram and Twitter accounts, where you feature findings from your research, or 1-2 TikTok videos.

Due Dates:

- **Friday, 7 February**: Work plan for the group, including research assignments and choice of public history projects (group assignment).
- **Friday, 20 March**: Annotated bibliography of primary and secondary sources (individual assignment).
- **Tuesday, 7 April**: Draft podcast script due (group assignment). You do not (and should not) write out the entirety of what you will say. Rather, this script should include all the questions or topics that you want to cover, along with some key talking points, and a plan about who will do what.
- **Thursday, 16 April – Tuesday, 28 April**: Project Days. During these days, the groups will record their podcasts and do their public history projects. As we get closer to the date, we will develop a schedule.
- **Thursday, 7 May**: Analytical essay due on Brightspace (individual assignment).

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