

Oral History Report and Presentation (100 points)

Assigned: Friday, 9/8

Paper Due: Tuesday, 10/3 by 8am to Turnitin

Presentations Start: Tuesday, 10/3 during class time

"Where you were on 9/11?" has, for some, become this generation's, *"Where were you when JFK was shot?"* Given our close proximity to the World Trade Center, New Jerseyans constituted over 700 of the approximately 3,000 victims claimed on that fateful day. This assignment will give you an opportunity to interact with people who have a vivid memory of where they were on and how they reacted to the attacks on 9/11.

Step 1: Select your subjects.

Think of the people in your life who may be willing and able to share their account of this day. Select two (2). *Note:* It is strongly advised to ask the permission of the potential participants before the more formal interviews begin. Asking permission and alerting them of the subject beforehand will help the potential participants decide whether or not they want to be involved in your report. You should also ask for consent to present their interview to the class.

Step 2: Prepare for the interview.

In order to effectively prepare for your interview, you should create questions in advance that are tailored to your subjects, if possible. Here is a list of general questions to help you get started:

- a. When and where were you born?
- b. How would you describe your personal connection to NYC? To the World Trade Center?
- c. Where were you when you first heard about the 9/11 terrorist attacks? What was your initial reaction? What was the initial reaction of those around you?
- d. What did you do after you first heard about the attacks (for example, called loved ones, prayed, continued on with the day, etc.)?
- e. Share any reflections you have about 9/11 and its impact on the U.S.

Step 3: The interviews.

It may be beneficial to record the interviews, if permission is granted. This will allow you to produce a more accurate transcript or even paraphrased response. You will submit the interview in one of these forms (transcript or paraphrased responses). Please keep in mind that it may be difficult for some of your subjects to discuss this topic, so it is encouraged that you be sensitive and flexible with the questions you ask.

Step 4: Craft your paper.

You will be creating a paper in which you reflect on the following items:

- a. Why you chose the two subjects you did.
- b. Highlights from both of the interviews.
- c. A brief comparison of their reactions to and reflections on the 9/11 attacks. To what degree are these reactions and reflections similar? What factors attribute to their degree of similarity?
- d. Your final conclusions.

Feel free to structure this paper however you deem fit. You will be submitting this assignment to Turnitin no later than 8am on Tuesday, 10/3. Turnitin Class ID = 16018506; Enrollment password = password.

Step 5: The presentation.

You will present your findings to the class, in whichever format you find most effective, and will incorporate the following (*note: these are the same points as your paper above*):

- a. Why you chose the two subjects you did.
- b. Highlights from both of the interviews.
- c. A brief comparison of their reactions to and reflections on the 9/11 attacks. To what degree are these reactions and reflections similar? What factors attribute to their degree of similarity?
- d. Your final conclusions.

Keep presentations to under 10 minutes. All PowerPoints, Prezis, etc. must be sent to me via email (KatBla@bergen.org) before class begins on 10/3.

Oral History Presentation Submission Checklist and Point Break Down:

- **Interview (transcript or paraphrased) on same document as paper - 10 points**
- **Paper responses - 50 points**
- **Presentation - 40 points**

Oral History Project Rubric - 9/11 Elective (100 points total)

Category	A range	B range	C range	D range	F
Interview Transcript/ Paraphrased (10 points)	Two subjects are thoroughly interviewed using given prompts as a starting point; Interviewer seems to employ inquisitiveness yet also sensitivity	Two subjects are thoroughly interviewed using the given prompts; Interviewer attempts to employ inquisitiveness yet also sensitivity	Two subjects are interviewed only using the given prompts; Interviewer moderately attempts to employ inquisitiveness yet also sensitivity	Two subjects are superficially interviewed; little attempt made on behalf of interviewer to act with inquisitiveness and/or sensitivity	Only one or no subjects interviewed; no attempt made on behalf of interviewer to employ inquisitiveness and/or sensitivity
Interview Inclusion into Paper + Comparison of Subjects (15 points)	Actively draws upon interview transcript/notes to provide a second-hand account of interviewees' experiences; Actively and creatively develops comparison of subjects	Draws upon interview transcript/ notes to provide a second-hand account of interviewees' experiences; Actively develops comparison of subjects	Attempts to draw upon interview transcript/notes to provide a second-hand account of interviewees' experiences; Attempts to develop comparison of subjects	Shallow attempt to draw upon interview transcript/notes to provide a second-hand account of interviewees' experiences; Little attempt to compare subjects	No attempt to draw upon interview transcript/notes to provide a second-hand account of interviewees' experiences; No attempt to compare subjects
Conclusions Drawn (25 points)	Thoroughly developed; Thoughtful, creative, and directly inspired from interviews; Insightful	Thoroughly developed; Thoughtful and inspired from interviews	Somewhat developed; Attempt to be thoughtful and inspired from interviews	Little development; Little attempt to be thoughtful and not entirely derived from interviews concluded	No development; No attempt to be thoughtful or creative; not derived from interviews conducted
Paper Mechanics (10 points)	Grammar, structure, & organization are extremely strong; Paper has been thoroughly and thoughtfully proofread	Grammar, structure, & organization are strong; Paper has been proofread	Grammar, structure, & organization are mediocre, with a few errors; Perhaps paper has been quickly proofread	Grammar, structure, & organization are flawed; Little evidence of proofreading	Grammar, structure, & organization are deeply flawed; No evidence of proofreading
Oral Presentation (40 points)	Addresses all required elements; Thorough understanding of issue; Prepared, practiced, and professional; Able to create deep understanding and promote interest for audience members	Addresses most required elements; Shows strong understanding of issue; Mostly prepared, practiced, and professional; Attempts to create deep understanding and interest for audience members	Addresses some of the required elements; Shows understanding of some elements of the issue; Somewhat prepared; Attempts to create understanding for audience members	Addresses only a few of the required elements; Shows little understanding of the issue; Barely prepared; Makes little attempt to create understanding and interest for audience members	Addresses none of the required elements; fails to show an understanding of issue; No effort made to create understanding or interest in audience members