

Historical Media Analysis Paper

APSU Writing Center Handout

In this assignment, you will analyze a piece of media such as a film, mini-series, play, or novel through a historical lens. Your goal is to evaluate its historical context, accuracy, and overall significance.

Thesis Requirement

Your paper must include a clear **thesis statement** that presents your argument about the work's historical accuracy, meaning, or significance.

What Your Analysis Should Include

1. Historical Setting

When and where does the work take place?

How does this setting connect to topics covered in the course?

2. Historical Context of the Work

When was the work created or released?

What historical events or cultural attitudes may have influenced it?

3. Accuracy

How accurately does the work portray historical events, people, or settings?

Where are creative liberties taken?

4. Creator's Perspective

Consider the author, director, or creator:

- What biases or perspectives might they bring?
- How might these influence the portrayal of history?

5. Themes and Historical Significance

What major themes does the work explore?

How do these themes relate to historical issues or developments?

6. Use of Outside Sources

Compare the work to real historical evidence.

Incorporate **credible external sources** to support your analysis.

Formatting & Citations

Make sure to consult with your professor to confirm which citation style to use: **MLA, APA, or Chicago.**

Be consistent with your chosen format throughout the paper.

Academic Integrity Reminder

Always properly cite written sources, images, and video clips.

Missing or incorrect citations are a common form of plagiarism and will be treated accordingly.