

Journal Assignment

Deadlines

Entries are due at **9:30 am** on discussion days. Those days are:

Unit 1

1. Monday, September 11
2. Monday, September 18

Unit 2

3. Monday, September 25
4. Wednesday, October 4

Unit 3

5. Wednesday, October 11
6. Monday, October 16
7. Monday, October 23
8. Monday, October 30

Unit 4

9. Monday, November 6
10. Monday, November 13
11. Monday, November 20
12. Wednesday, November 29

Task

Please visit the class discussion board <<http://www.phpbbplanet.com/metropolitanwas/>> for specific assignment questions.

Please write a one-paragraph (about 150-200 words) answer to the posted question. (Please note that the suggested length for a letter to the editor of the *New York Times* is 150 words.) If you read your classmates' responses before composing your own, be sure to say something new, rather than just agreeing.

Goals

This assignment is designed to improve our class discussions and your individual essays. It requires you to

- prepare for class discussions by thinking about the readings ahead of time.
- prepare for essay assignments by gathering evidence for your answer.
- practice writing short, pithy comments.

Submission

- Find the correct discussion on the discussion board and hit "reply."
- When you submit the final draft of an essay, print out all of your postings. The easiest way to do this is to click on your name, then click "find all posts" by you.

Grading Criteria

I will not comment on individual postings, but they will count for 20 percent of your essay grade. I will look for posts that show you have read the assigned texts and thought about them for a bit. Missing one or two postings over the course of the semester will not affect your final grade, but more than that may lower your participation score as well as your essay grades.

Note: You are free to cite other students' postings in your essays. Suggested footnote style:

Joanna Student, "Lincoln's Imagery," 14 October 2006, *History 417 Discussion Board*, <http://www.phpbbplanet.com/metropolitanwas> (cited 30 October 2006).