



# WORLD WAR II PROJECT

## OVERVIEW

World War II is the seminal event of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. It forever changed the U.S. and world history. After almost 80 years its effects are still with us. Nuclear technology, computers, radar, jet engines, penicillin, the United Nations, the Cold War, Middle East tensions, U.S. global supremacy, and so much more find their origins deep within the grim reality of this cataclysmic struggle. It is no wonder that it is one of the most written about, debated, analyzed, and memorialized events of all time. Because of this you will be focusing on studying and crafting projects that reflect the nature, processes, and effects of this momentous event.

## DIRECTIONS

You will be working as an individual or in small groups (no more than 2) to complete a project covering aspects of WWII. You and your partner will have a variety of choices for this project. From the chart below you will **CHOOSE ANY COMBINATION OF THREE (3) ACTIVITIES** to work on and complete. After you select the items go to the sections below to get further instructions specific to the items you have chosen to complete.

<p><b>1. MOVIE TRAILER:</b> Create a trailer for a movie that is based off of World War II. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>2. PODCAST:</b> Create a podcast in which you have someone take on the role of a spokesperson, historical figure, historian...etc. that speaks about a particular aspect, theme, legacy, or event about World War II. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>3. POEM &amp; SONG:</b> Write a poem OR a song which explores facts and emotions related to World War II. You may choose between several types of poems or songs and will include both facts and emotions in your poem or song. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>
<p><b>4. TRADING CARDS or BOARD GAME:</b> Create trading cards for some very important World War II figures. Your cards will include a photo/drawing of the person and important statistics and facts about their life and accomplishments. If you don't want to do trading cards, then craft a board game that is World War II based. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>5. JOURNAL ENTRIES:</b> Write a set of journaled letters of a person or persons or between persons during WWII. These entries need to look and sound authentic by capturing the human element of the war while being faithful to historical accuracy. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>6. BIOGRAPHY MAGAZINE:</b> Create a digital OR physical biography magazine of a famous WWII personality OR base it off of a person you actually know from WW2 (i.e. veteran). Create your own magazine of this person, focusing exclusively on their life and their importance during and after the war and/or personally to your life. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>
<p><b>7. COMIC BOOK:</b> Use your skills to depict an important World War II event or events in a comic book. The comic book will need to utilize classic comic book speech bubbles, color, action sequence, and the like while at the same time being historical faithful. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>8. WWII MEMORIAL:</b> Design a memorial to honor a World War II historical figure or event. You will create a plaque or statue or model memorializing a key event. You will have a typed explanation of the purpose of your memorial, where it should be located, why, and its construction. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>9. TIMELINE:</b> Create a visual annotated timeline of the ten most significant events of World War II. Your timeline should include the dates of each event, pictures, and captions which explain why you chose them for their significance. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>
<p><b>10. VIDEO BROADCAST:</b> Use your artistic, acting, and media skills to create an informational broadcasts of an important day in the war and report about it as if you are there. Report from the front lines of an important battle, or do an interview with an important person, or do some kind of a propaganda piece or combinations of such. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>11. PROPOGANDA POSTERS:</b> Use your artistic skills to create propoganda posters dealing with recruiting, reasons for fighting, rationing, and the like from the perspective of the various combative nations of WWII. See instructions for further details. (100 pts)</p>	<p><b>12. WILD CARD:</b> If you have some alternative unique activity that you think would be informative and creative then talk with me about it and you can do this (100 pts)</p>

## – SPECIFIC CATEGORY INFORMATION –

1. **MOVIE TRAILER:** Create a trailer for a movie that is based off of World War II.
  - a. You have a lot of leeway with this trailer. It can be a comedy, drama, satire, love story, biography, war film, mystery, horror, documentary or anything else you want to do. The key is the trailer needs to be based on World War II.
  - b. **RESOURCES:**
    - i. <https://www.canva.com/video-editor/> (will allow you to also use video templates & upload videos)
    - ii. <https://animoto.com/> (will allow you to create videos via drag and drop & add music)
    - iii. <https://www.wevideo.com/> (will allow easy recording and uploading of video in high resolution)
    - iv. <https://www.powtoon.com/> (will allow you to make creative graphic enhancing videos)
  
2. **PODCAST:** Create a podcast in which you have someone take on the role of a spokesperson, historical figure, historian...etc. that speaks about a particular aspect, theme, legacy, or event about World War II.
  - a. Consider doing the podcast as an interview between an interviewer and an historian talking about a particular aspect of the war.
  - b. Consider doing the podcast as an interview of an historical figure from WWII on their life or some aspect of the war.
  - c. Consider doing the podcast as two people just having a good time talking about interesting tidbits about World War II
  - d. The podcast needs to be thoughtful, not-rambling, focused on actual content, and a minimum of 5 min long.
  - e. **RESOURCES:**
    - i. <https://www.canva.com/video-editor/> (will allow you to also use video templates & upload videos)
    - ii. <https://animoto.com/> (will allow you to create videos via drag and drop & add music)
    - iii. <https://www.wevideo.com/> (will allow easy recording and uploading of video in high resolution)
    - iv. <https://www.powtoon.com/> (will allow you to make creative graphic enhancing videos)
  
3. **POEM & SONG:** Write a poem OR a song which explores facts and emotions related to World War II. You may choose between several types of poems or songs and will include both facts and emotions in your poem or song. Consider the following:
  - a. Your poem or song needs to cover a key event, person, or place that has deep meaning. This can be a happy or sad event or place. Poetry and Song is a reflection of the human soul and displays our common humanity. The poem or song needs to focus upon the deep existential questions about the war and the events and people within it.
  - b. You may write a free verse poem, acrostic, diamante, shape poem, or any other type of poem.
  - c. The poem needs to be put on very nice professional looking paper or card stock or poster board. Not just plain white printer paper. Make it look embroidered, unique, personable...don't BS this, do it from the heart and mind or don't do it.
  - d. The song can be done as rap, hip-hop, country, metal, kiddy, comical...ect. And it can be existential or informational in nature.
  - e. The poem or song needs to have a 1 paragraph, typed explanation of the significance/meaning of the poem/song to World War II.
  - f. **RESOURCES:**
    - i. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/articles/91359/the-poetry-of-wwii>
    - ii. <http://www.warpoets.org/conflicts/world-war-ii/>
    - iii. <http://world-war-2.info/poems/>
    - iv. <https://digitalcollections.hclib.org/digital/collection/p17208coll3/search/page/17>
    - v. <https://digitalcollections.lib.washington.edu/digital/collection/posters/search/searchterm/World%20War%20II/field/all/mode/exact/conn/and/order/title>
    - vi. <https://www.song-lyrics-generator.org.uk/>
    - vii. <https://www.kidzworld.com/article/24798-how-to-write-songs>

- 4. TRADING CARDS:** Create trading cards for some very important World War II figures. Your cards will include a photo/drawing of the person and important statistics and facts about their life and accomplishments.
- Create a "trading card" for 10 key historical figures of WWII. It can be dictators, generals, presidents, prime-ministers, workers, actors, business people, victims, the list goes on and on!
  - Do your cards in the following way: (a) make them look like baseball cards, (b) make them like Pokémon cards with each character having abilities and powers, (c) make them like Magic the Gathering cards, each persons with abilities and such.
  - Each card should at least contain some if not all of the following:
    - A photo or drawing of the person
    - A short summary of their accomplishments and what they're remembered for
    - A famous quote about them
    - Their birth and death dates
    - Add additional stuff about them of interest. Get creative!
  - If you want to create a Board Game instead, then go right ahead! The board game needs to have actual rules, is actually playable, and is based upon World War II.
  - RESOURCES FOR TRADING CARDS:
    - <https://www.mytradingcards.com/default.aspx>
    - <https://www.mtgcardmaker.com/>
    - <http://magicseteditor.sourceforge.net/>
    - <http://pokemoncardapp.com/>
    - <http://www.mypokecard.com/en/>
  - RESOURCES FOR BOARD GAMES:
    - <https://www.wikihow.com/Make-Your-Own-Board-Game>
    - <https://www.kiddycharts.com/activities/design-and-make-your-own-board-game/>
    - <https://www.storyboardthat.com/create/game-posters>
    - <https://thegamecrafter.com> (it is blocked at school but check this out at home!)
- 5. LETTERS:** Write a set of letters between someone serving in WWII and someone else either on the home-front or also serving. Example is imagine that you are writing home from the battlefield or are serving in political office. Consider the following steps:
- You need to do at least 6 TOTAL LETTERS. This would be correspondence between two or more people.
  - Each letter must have A MINIMUM OF 3-4 PARAGRAPHS and they can only be HAND WRITTEN.
  - The letters can be from any perspective on the war: American, Russian, German, Italian, Japanese...ect.
  - Your letter should include a proper format of: date, heading, body, and closing
  - Your letters need to look old. Crumble them up, pour coffee on them, bake them...ect. Make them look authentic!
  - Your letters must include details about your location, which side you're on, what life on the battlefield or at home or in positions is like, what you've witnessed, what you've been a part of and the result, and your feelings about the war in general.
- 6. BIOGRAPHY MAGAZINE:** Create a digital mini-biography magazine of a famous WWII personality OR base it off of a person you actually know from WW2. You will create your own magazine of this person, focusing exclusively on their life and their importance during and after the war and/or personally to your life. Consider the following:
- Your magazine can be digital or physical in nature. AT LEAST FIVE PAGES: 1 cover page and at least 4 pages of information.
  - Your magazine needs to cover their early life, their connection to WWII, and what happened to them during and after the war.
  - Your biography needs to have pictures reinforcing your study of this person: early childhood, marriage, career, family...ect.
  - RESOURCES:
    - <https://www.biography.com/> (will be a good place to get information on famous people)
    - <https://www.lucidpress.com/pages/examples/free-digital-magazine-software>
    - <https://www.canva.com/templates/> (will allow you to create posters, flyers, info-graphics, brochures...etc.)
    - <https://www.visme.co/brochure-maker/> (will allow you to sign up to create brochures and info-graphics)
    - <https://piktochart.com/formats/posters/> (will allow you to sign up and create a poster)
    - <https://www.designcap.com/> (will allow you to sign up and create info-graphics and posters)

- 7. COMIC BOOK:** Use your skills to depict an important World War II event on a comic strip. Include important historical figures and their words and actions using speech bubbles and your art skills. Your comic will help show and tell about history. Consider the following:
- Your comic book must have a minimum of 5 pages (this includes: (1) cover page and (4) pages of content)
  - Your comic strip should tell the story of an important World War II event, battle, or person.
  - Your comic book needs to actually LOOK LIKE A COMIC BOOK! Use speech bubbles, action, color, ink...ect!
  - Your comic book can be action oriented, realistic, comical, serious or whatever! Get creative!
  - RESOURCES: Go to GOOGLE IMAGES and type in "WW2 comics" to get ideas of what to make it look like.
- 8. WWII MEMORIAL:** Design a memorial to honor a World War II historical figure or event. You will illustrate your memorial, create the plaque or statue which explains your memorial to visitors, explains your memorial's location and construction, and more. Consider the following:
- How you can do this is the following:
    - You can create a detailed illustration of your memorial on large poster or sheet paper if you desire
    - You can create a model of your memorial out of clay, paper, or 3D modeling software
    - Your illustration or model needs to be detailed, realistic, and colored.
    - You need to have a separate sheet of paper accompanying your memorial which explains and shares information about who or whatever you are memorializing, where the memorial should be located, what visitors could expect to see or experience in visiting the memorial, and the purpose of the memorial in A MINIMUM OF ONE PAGE TYPED SINGLE SPACED.
  - RESOURCES: Research other examples of war memorials for ideas and inspiration.
- 9. TIMELINE:** Create a visual annotated timeline of the 10 MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS of World War II. Your timeline should include the dates of each event and captions which explain why you chose them for their significance. Consider the following:
- Use your book, the internet, my website resources, your notes, and other books to identify the ten most important events of WWII.
  - You may use a material that you select for your timeline, but you may NOT use a sheet of notebook paper nor merely do a PPT with copy and pasted words. It needs to be "crafty" – i.e. sentence strips, poster, butcher paper, construction paper, pictures...ect
  - Each event must contain the DATE and a BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE EVENT FOR WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT
  - Each event must contain an image or images visually reinforcing that event.
- 10. VIDEO BROADCAST:** Use your artistic, acting, and media skills to create an informational broadcast of an important day or days in the war and report about it as if you are there. Report from the front lines of an important battle, or do an interview with an important person, or do some kind of a propaganda piece. Consider the following:
- The broadcast needs to be at least 5 minutes
  - The broadcast needs to be either: a comedy segment, advertisement, propaganda, interview, front-lines segment...ect.
  - The broadcast needs to be historically relevant to the time! It needs to be authentic!
    - Period time music, setting, atmosphere, information...ect.
    - It needs to have music, footage, pictures and the like that are part of that time!
  - The broadcast can be from any perspective with any person in any place during WWII.
  - RESOURCES:
    - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9N\\_m8Wn6jk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9N_m8Wn6jk) will help you get ideas
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21uDUvRD4aQ> will show you an example. DON'T COPY IT!!!
    - <https://www.canva.com/video-editor/> (will allow you to also use video templates & upload videos)
    - <https://animoto.com/> (will allow you to create videos via drag and drop & add music)
    - <https://www.wevideo.com/> (will allow easy recording and uploading of video in high resolution)
    - <https://www.powtoon.com/> (will allow you to make creative graphic enhancing videos)

- 11. PROPOGANDA POSTERS:** Use your artistic skills to create propaganda posters dealing with recruiting, reasons for fighting, rationing, and the like from the perspective of the various combative nations of WWII. Consider the following:
- a. You need to do **AT LEAST THREE PROPOGANDA POSTERS**
  - b. The posters **CANNOT BE COPIED FROM ALREADY EXISTING POSTERS! MAKE YOUR OWN!**
  - c. Your posters need to consider the following:
    - i. It needs to have powerful and effective images
    - ii. It needs to have a slogan or phrase or big idea it is getting across
    - iii. It needs to elicit a sense of motivation, emotion, or move one to action!
    - iv. It needs to be colorized, vivid, and aesthetically pleasing!
  - d. Along with your poster you need to have a paper that answers the following questions:
    - i. Who is the intended audience of the poster? Be specific provide information such as gender, age, race, political position, socioeconomic status...ect.
    - ii. What is the aim of the poster? In other words, what does the poster want the intended audience to do?
    - iii. Does this poster elicit a positive or negative response? What feelings or emotions does the poster arouse? Be specific.
  - e. **RESOURCES:**
    - i. [https://www.google.com/search?q=ww2+propaganda+poster+project&safe=strict&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjMnveM3IHhAhXtp1kKHRfGCrsQ\\_AUIDigB&biw=1024&bih=625](https://www.google.com/search?q=ww2+propaganda+poster+project&safe=strict&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjMnveM3IHhAhXtp1kKHRfGCrsQ_AUIDigB&biw=1024&bih=625) will give you ideas
    - ii. [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers\\_of\\_persuasion/powers\\_of\\_persuasion\\_intro.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers_of_persuasion/powers_of_persuasion_intro.html)
    - iii. <https://www.history.com/news/world-war-ii-propaganda-posters-photos-united-states-home-front>

## GRADING

This is a massive project worth 300 PNTS TOTAL. The largest you have ever done up to this point. Thus, to do poorly on it will damage your grade perhaps beyond repair for the current nine-weeks. You will be given several days in class sporadically to work on these projects and collaborate, but this will not be enough time! We are moving on with content so you will have to do work outside of class time ontop of what time you are given in class to work. Don't dilly-dally and lolly-gag!

- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO WORK ON THIS OUTSIDE OF CLASS!!!**
- **THE PROJECT WILL BE DUE WEDNESDAY MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2023.** NO PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATE!!!!
- **NOTE: THIS PROJECT DOESN'T MEAN OTHER ASSIGNMENTS IN CLASS OVER THE NEXT WEEKS WILL NOT BE GIVEN!**
- **NOTE: GROUP GRADES WILL BE GRADED MORE STRICTLY CONSIDERING YOU HAVE MORE PEOPLE TO WORK!**