**AMERICAN HISTORY II SEMESTER 2 Name:**

**DECADES RESEARCH PAPER /NEWSCAST PROJECT**

**Big Picture:**

In the second semester of American History II, you will have two major product grades: one in Quarter 3 and one in Quarter 4. These major assignments will include a 3-4 page research paper and a group news report on the culture of a particular decade. Groups presenting about the 1940s, 1950s or 1960s will present in Quarter 3 and write a research paper in Quarter 4. Groups presenting about the 1970s, 1980s, or 1990s will present in Quarter 4 and write a research paper in Quarter 3. You will not have any tests this semester☺ . Your product grades will include 30-question quizzes for each decade and these two major product grades (paper and presentation). We will still read assigned chapters in the textbook, take notes in class, and complete activities. You will have a North Carolina Final Exam at the end of the year, which counts as 20% of your final grade.

**Details:**

**News Report on the Culture of the Decade**: You and your group will create and present a live, scripted “special report” on the culture of your decade. You will first choose, in a lottery-like system, the decade for your cultural presentation and then meet with your group members to discuss what you already know about that decade’s culture. Next, you will research the music, style, trends, films, literature, major events, and political climate of your given decade. Your group will interview at least two people about their experiences living through the decade (grandparents or parents may be a great resource!). All of this information will be delivered to your classmates in a 15 minute news report with news anchors and reporters covering the culture of the decade. Rubric and more details to come.

**Research Paper:** You will choose a specific topic on which to conduct research. The topic you choose can be on almost anything in American history as long as it is: a) event based b) approved by Mrs. Gaskins and b) from the designated time period given. If you are writing a paper in Quarter 3, you must choose a topic from 1940 - 1969. If you are writing a paper in Quarter 4, you must choose a topic from 1970-1999. Your paper will be at least 3 pages in length, follow MLA formatting, and contain a thesis to be proven within the body of the paper. You will have a Works Cited page with at least 5 scholarly sources. Rubric and more details to come.

**Timeline:**

You will have 3 separate days in the Media Center per quarter to work on these projects. You will also be given occasional time in the classroom to work throughout each quarter. If you stay focused, much of the work can be done in class, though some work at home will be required. You will be given rubrics with specific requirements and specific deadlines in the weeks to come. Have fun with this, personalize it, and work hard!

**Media Center Dates for Quarter 3: Tuesday 1/30, Tuesday 2/13, and Friday 3/2**

**Due Date: Monday, March 12th**