

# **National History Day: Suggested Timeline**

## **Basic Outline-Year Long Course**

### **September**

#### Introduction to History Day

- Read rule book and discuss theme

#### Building Historical Thinking and Research Skills

- How to conduct research; how to construct bibliography
- Primary and secondary sources

#### Topic and Category Selection

- Work on finding and narrowing topics
- Decide category and group or individual entry

### **October**

#### Research

- Begin secondary source research using library resources
- Identify additional sources using bibliographies of secondary sources

### **November/ December**

#### Research

- Continue secondary source research and begin primary source research
- Make use of digital archives throughout research process

#### Thesis Development

- Construct strong, clear thesis statement

#### Project Development

- Begin creating entry
- Identify any images to be used in project

#### Evaluate Progress

- Thesis statement due

### **January**

#### Project Development

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- Continue constructing entry

#### Evaluate Progress

- Preliminary bibliography due
- Outline/storyboard/rough draft due

#### Revision

- Use teacher feedback to improve project

## **February**

#### Project Development

- Finalize entry
- Present and seek feedback from peers and adults

#### Evaluate Progress

- Finalize thesis statement
- Final bibliographies due
- Final project due

#### Revision

- Use feedback to improve project

#### School and District Competitions

- Prepare for presentation and interview questions at competition
- Present project at regional contests (February- March)

## **March/April**

#### Revision

- State qualifiers continue to research and improve project based on judges' feedback from regional competitions

#### State Competition

- April 23, 2016 at Mercer University, Macon

## **May/June Revision**

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- National qualifiers revise projects for the national competition

## **June**

### National Competition

- June 12- 16: National History Day Contest in College Park, Maryland