

## **ACTIVITY: KEYWORD ESSAY**

### **Paper Outline**

Your outline should include the topic of your paper, thesis statement, as well as the time(s) and place(s) you will be focusing on in your comparison. It should also include a draft of your thesis statement and main argument, and notes sketching out the main sections of the paper in the order you will discuss them, along with the major primary and secondary sources you will be drawing upon.

### **Final Paper**

Your final paper will focus on one keyword, examining what it has meant and been used to do in the world both within and beyond US borders. It should be comparative in the sense that you will want to consider at least two different places, or sites, as well as the role of change over time. You can draw on both primary source documents, materials from the time periods and places you are studying, and secondary materials, or what other scholars have said about it.

### **Primary Source Collections**

- Jeffrey Engel, et. al. eds., *America in the World: A History in Documents from the War with Spain to the War on Terror* (Princeton, 2014)
- Matt Meyer, ed., *Let Freedom Ring: A Collection of Documents to Free US Political Prisoners* (PM Press, 2008)
- Joy James, ed., *The New Abolitionists: (Neo) Slave Narratives and Contemporary Prison Writings* (SUNY Press, 2005)
- Ward Churchill and Jim Vander Wall, eds., *The COINTELPRO Papers: Documents from the FBI's Secret Wars Against Dissent in the United States* (South End Press, 1990; 2002)

### **Online Resources for Primary Sources**

In addition to the primary and secondary sources we read in class, you will want to research your chosen keyword in a number of online databases. You will want to search the term along with related terms -- like foreign policy, criminology, police, prison, etc., -- to get a range of material from both government documents, newspapers, organization materials, memoirs, and so forth. Some of the databases you will find most useful, depending on the approach you take to your keyword include:

- Databases: America's Historical Newspapers; American Indian Newspapers; Asian-American Drama; Archives of Human Sexuality, Identity, LGBTQ History; HeinOnline; HathiTrust; Hispanic American Newspapers; Internet Archive; Latin American Newspapers; LGBT Life; Middle-East Online; Military and Government Collection; NAACP Papers; Nixon Years; ProQuest Congressional; ProQuest Historical Newspapers; Slavery, Abolition, Social Justice; Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy; US Intelligence on the Middle East; United Nations Digital Library; US Newsstream; Women and Social Movements in the US; Women Writers Online; Women, War and Society; World Newspaper Archive.

**Yale Avalon Project:** <https://avalon.law.yale.edu/>

- 19th Century Documents: [https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject\\_menus/19th.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/19th.asp)
- 20th Century Documents: [https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject\\_menus/20th.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/20th.asp)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Documents: [https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject\\_menus/21st.asp](https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/21st.asp)