

This paper gives you practice with the “practice” of history. In this unit, we’ve been trying out various techniques and methodologies that may be specific to a certain kind of source (genetic, quantitative, letters & diaries, government documents, radio, and maps). For this paper, choose a topic that could be investigated by **practicing** what we’ve done in one of these workshops:

- Using the same type of source as one of the “practice workshops”
or
- Using the same investigative technique as one of the “practice workshops”
or
- Using the same analytical methodology as one of the “practice workshops”
or
- Using one of our unit’s assigned readings as a model for your paper

In other words, take what we read or do in one of our in-class workshops and expand on it with a topic of your own choosing and for which you will do your own source-digging and source-analysis. I’d encourage you to choose a technique or source-base with which you are less familiar, or which represents a stretch outside your comfort zone. The purpose of this paper is exploration and experimentation.

How many sources? That’s up to you. Enough to write a good 4-6 page paper. If the quality of your analysis and your chosen methodology lends itself, that might be just one. More likely you will need more than one. So: Enough to make a strong evidence case. Enough to show you understand what your chosen methodology or sources can (and cannot!) tell us about the past. Enough to really represent 20% of your final grade in the course and provide sufficient material for a meaty, thoughtfully constructed essay.

Length and Style: Your paper should be 4-6 pages long (1000-1500 words) and use correct and full citations in Chicago Style. Once again, use Rampolla as your guide, especially as you may be citing unconventional sources. Your paper will need footnotes AND an attached bibliography (which is not part of the page count).

Sources and Citation: As before, the sources for your paper should be completely documented if you accessed them as paper/print sources. If they were electronic or non-print sources, find a way to show them to me. Possibilities include:

- Attach printouts (the least desirable option)
- Upload as files to your ePortfolio on a page made with a “File Cabinet” template
- Hyperlink to them from a page on your ePortfolio
- Organize them in a public Zotero folder