

HIST 4571: Technology and Society in the Modern World

Directions for Presentations

Students are required to give one oral presentation, worth 5% of the final grade.

Please make sure that your presentation does the following things:

- Tell the audience about your topic. This means:
 - providing some basic historical information about the particular technology or technological system that is your focus;
 - providing some dates and key events; and
 - providing information not only about the object or system itself but about its social context (its impact, use, decline, etc.)

- You need to spend most of the time of the presentation presenting the core of your *argument* (or thesis) to the class. In other words, not only should you tell us a bit of narrative history (what happened, etc.) but also tell us an analytical point. This could be, for example, in the form of something causal, i.e., you are trying to explain *the cause* of a particular historical phenomenon, or you could show some sort of *change over time*, and then explain why certain historical factors caused that change to occur.

- You need to say something about both the primary and secondary sources that you intend to use to tell us about the topic

- You need to employ visual media of some sort to make your point. This could include striking images, maps, graphs, or video clips. If you use video, make sure that the clip is not more than 2-3 minutes long. Do not use too much cluttered text on your slides.

- Your presentation should be 10-12 minutes long. If you go over 12 minutes I will make you stop.

Please practice your presentation before presenting it before the class!

You need to email me your presentation by **12:00 noon** on the day of your presentation. This could be in the form of a PowerPoint file (preferable) but also a Google Drive link for me to access.

Other students will pose questions after the presentation (for c. 5 minutes). Everyone will be graded, both on their presentations and the types of questions they ask other presenters.