

CRITIQUE A HISTORY ASSESSMENT

“Write an essay of 1000-1200 words based on a close analysis of two *New York Times* articles on a working class American in 1972 named Dewey Burton and supplemented by a scholarly secondary source on the late 1960s and early 1970s. In your essay you will answer the following question: **To what extent did Dewey Burton in his political identity (voter preference and/or reactions to particular political/social issues) reflect the political identity of other white working class Americans in the late 1960s and early 1970s?** Your essay must directly utilize **the two *NY Times* articles** on Dewey Burton. Additionally you will utilize one scholarly secondary source by Jefferson Cowie on working class political identity in the late 1960s and early 1970s to provide the necessary context under which you are comparing Dewey Burton to other Americans from his demographic at that time. The bulk of this paper should be your analysis of Dewey Burton’s political identity as revealed from the quotes and the details about Burton’s life from the *NY Times* articles.”

1. What is the main purpose of the assignment?
2. How well does it provide a means for students to exhibit or demonstrate the proficiency you want them to have mastered?
3. How is the assignment related to course goals? Could that connection be made stronger or more explicit?
4. Does the assignment as written provide sufficient information for students to be able to generate a successful (and scorable) response?
5. Write one suggestion you have that would improve this assessment.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR UPPER DIVISION HISTORY COURSES

1. Acquire an advanced understanding of historical change and begin to identify the major contributions and developments of human societies, their continuities and changes over time, and their influence on the present.
2. Evaluate and apply methods of historical inquiry.
3. Construct and debate historical questions independently in written and oral form.
4. Demonstrate critical and analytical thinking skills by evaluating primary and secondary sources.
5. Compose an outside paper and conduct independent historical research, analyzing primary and secondary sources and demonstrating an awareness of context.

CRITIQUE ONE OF YOUR ASSESSMENTS

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