BEYOND EURASIA – PART ONE:
BACKGROUND PASSAGE

Research and write a one to two paragraph description of your culture. Use reliable sources for your research (again, if you're at all unsure, check the “reliable source” handout and/or ask me), and cite your sources at the bottom of the page.

Your paragraph should include the background information necessary for someone to understand your culture on a basic level. You should include the years when this culture was prominent, the geographical location, and basic information about their culture and society (art, religion, social structure, etc.). For those cultures with an extremely long and detailed history (e.g., Japan, Korea, etc.), write about the specific period on which you are focusing. Not all information will be available for all cultures, just include what is available.

BEYOND EURASIA – PART TWO:
FOCUSED TOPIC PASSAGE

Research and write a multi-paragraph informational passage explaining one aspect of your culture. Use reliable sources for your research (again, if you're at all unsure, check the “reliable source” handout and/or ask me), and cite your sources at the bottom of the page.

Your passage should include the information necessary for someone to understand the significance of your information in the fuller context of the culture. For instance, if you are exploring the art of your culture, you should provide the information necessary to understand its meaning, significance, and symbolism.

You should also search for a primary source relating to your topic (that could be a piece of art, a text, architecture, etc.) as you research, since you will need that primary source for part three of the project.

BEYOND EURASIA – PART THREE:
PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

Find a primary source that relates to your specific area of focus/interest. You will need to integrate this source into your in-class presentation, so be sure you understand how it relates and the significance and meaning of the source. For some areas of focus (music, food, dance) you may need to use modern examples of the historical style (since you’re not likely to find a 500 year old recording of traditional music, etc.)

Write a paragraph analyzing the source using the skills developed during the year (consider all of the questions in your “reading sources critically” handout).

If you have questions regarding the suitability of a source, ask me.
Part Four requires that you combine your written passages from parts one, two, and three into a single, cohesive and well-written piece of writing.

As you do this, pay special attention to integrating the parts; rather than merely putting one after another, reorganize the writing so that it flows properly and information is not unnecessarily repeated.

You must also use footnotes to indicate the origins of your material. What follows is a brief guide to footnoting.

- The most basic concept of citation is the following: "When you turn in a formal research work, your implicit claim is 'Everything in this work is a product of my original research and interpretation unless otherwise noted.'"
  - This means that unless something is footnoted, you are claiming it is an original idea or interpretation. If you are not comfortable making that claim regarding a given statement, then you should cite the origin of that statement's idea.
- Practically this means you must always cite the following:
  - Direct reference to another work (either primary or secondary) in a quotation.
    - E.g., In the Annals, Tacitus writes "I like pie."
  - Direct reference to another work (either primary or secondary) without quotation
    - E.g., Tacitus makes numerous references to his love of pie.
  - Indirect reference to the ideas in other works (generally secondary)
    - E.g., Many historians agree that Tacitus' love of pie was his most endearing characteristic.
- You do not need to cite generally accepted facts unless they are evidence for your argument.
  - E.g., "Julius Caesar was assassinated" does not need to be cited, since there is no dispute in how he was killed.
  - On the other hand, "Julius Caesar showed his vanity by adjusting his toga during his assassination" must be cited, because the while the fact he adjusted his toga is not in question, you are using it as evidence for your interpretation that the act displays his vanity.

For footnote format and style, follow the Chicago-Turabian stylesheet in the download section.
Beyond Eurasia - Part 5
Oral Presentation

Part five requires you to give a three to four minute presentation in class. You should provide your audience with enough background information to understand your specific area of focus, and enough information on the specific area of focus and primary source that they are able to understand its significance in context.

If you are presenting from a manuscript, your written manuscript should be approximately two pages, typed, and double spaced to last four minutes. You may also choose to present extemporaneously, and have a bullet point outline of your presentation (much as I give lecture). Presenting extemporaneously requires a bit more preparation, but it will allow you to more fully engage with your audience. You are encouraged to use whatever media (powerpoint, images, background music, etc.) you require.

Use the speech organization and presentation handouts (in the download section) to help you prepare.

Your presentation will be graded based on the following criteria:

• Body Language:
  ◦ Is your body language calm and controlled?
• Voice:
  ◦ Is your speaking at a natural pace and projecting to the back of the room?
• Preparation:
  ◦ Are you confidently working from your manuscript/outline or are you stumbling over your words and reading each word as if it's the first time you've ever read it?
  ◦ Are you able to answer questions about your subject or are you unable to define some of the terms you are using?
    ▪ I guarantee that I will ask you to define a term if it's highly technical, so I encourage you to know the definition for any and all specialized terms in your presentation.
• Content & Organization:
  ◦ Is your presentation organized in a logical and flowing manner or is it confusing?
  ◦ When you transition from topic to topic, are your transitions clear to the audience or do they “jump” without warning?

Finally, once again, this project is an opportunity to end the year on a high note. It is designed to give you an opportunity to experience research without it being too harshly judged. If you have put in good effort and completed the assignment, you will get a good grade, so please remain relatively calm about this. ;)

Nearly everyone gets nervous about public speaking, and you've had a couple of opportunities during the year to practice, so be confident (or pretend convincingly) and do a great job.