History 2401
Story Maps project instructions and grading rubric

The project (15% of course grade): Use ArcGIS-Story Maps Classic (OSU-subscribed software) to do a presentation on the theme “East Asia and Early Modern Globalization.” Due on Nov. 26.

Requirements:
In this assignment, you will draw on the course material (textbook, readings on Carmen and digital resources assigned by the instructor, and lectures) to explore a specific topic under the broad theme of “East Asia and Early Modern Globalization.” “Early Modern” in this class roughly refers to 1500-1800. The presentation should discuss at least two of the East Asian countries (China, Korea, Japan) substantially. Think about these questions when you develop your project.

1) “What are you trying to show?”--The presentation must have a thesis/main argument. Everything in the presentation should help illustrate and support your thesis. Your topic should not be too general. For example, “East Asia was part of early modern globalization” is not a good thesis because it is too broad and obvious; “East Asian countries’ interest in military technology played an important role in shaping early modern globalization” is much more specific. “East Asia countries reacted to the global expansion of Catholicism differently” is not very specific but still acceptable. If you need help with identifying a topic or coming up with a thesis, the instructor would love to assist you. A short conversation or a few emails could solve the problem.

2) “What evidence do you have to support your thesis?” The evidence (historical information) should come from the course material. The purpose of this requirement is to make sure you understand and synthesize the information from course material; relying on external material will fail to show what you learned in this class or your independent thinking. You are allowed to use no more than 2 external sources (scholarly research or historical sources published in English), and you must obtain the instructor’s permission to use such external sources. Otherwise you might receive a grade penalty.

3) “How do you organize your evidence into a coherent analysis and presentation?” Use texts to describe and analyze—you can paraphrase or quote short passages from course material; you can write sentences or short paragraphs of analysis. Use visual material to illustrate or complement your texts. The images can come from sources beyond course material; just make sure you credit these external sources. Guidelines about use of image and copyright issues are posted on Carmen and attached at the end of this document. The textual part of the project is equivalent to a 1000-word paper.

Grading rubrics (15 points):

1) Does the presentation have a proper thesis/main argument? (1 points) Does the presentation clearly describe and explain a historical phenomenon or development? (2 points)
2) Does the presentation draw on course material substantially and demonstrate the author’s accurate understanding of the historical information provided in the course material? (4 points)
3) Does the presentation offer adequate analysis of the topic? (3 points)
4) Does the presentation use visual elements properly and effectively? Include at least 1 map in the presentation. (3 points)
5) Is the presentation adequately copy-edited? (Check typos and grammatical errors.) Does the author provide adequate citations? (2 points)

The tool: ArtGIS Story Maps Classic

1) Create an account with ArcGIS (Ohio State). Instructions on how to do this is in the course general information page on Carmen.
2) Story Maps is one of the important digital tools managed by ArcGIS. Among the many tools they offer, this one is very accessible, easy to use, and visually appealing. It is also very suitable for history and cultural projects. ArcGIS is hoping to develop a new Story Maps but it is in progress. What you will use for your project is Story Maps Classic. To access Story Maps Classic, follow these simple steps. Note that you do not need to go to the ArcGIS homepage.

First, open https://storymaps-classic.arcgis.com/en/. On this page, you can log in your ArcGIS account. (Ignore “Looking for the new ArcGIS StoryMaps?” because it is a new version that the company is working on and does not provide good tutorial material yet.)

Second, browse “Gallery” and see some great examples of Story Maps projects. I would recommend you look at some historical and cultural projects to find inspirations.
Third, you may go to “Apps” and find the template you like and start playing with it; each template comes with great tutorial material.

You will be able to save your draft and come back to revise it. Simply click on “My Stories” on the top of the homepage, you will see a list of projects in your account.
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https://library.osu.edu/copyright/resources
The information on this website is exhaustive and useful for all of us. But for the projects for History 2401, the most important and relevant ones are “Copyright guide for students,” “What is ‘fair use?,” and “Using Images: Copyright guidelines for the use of images in education.”