

ProjectDescription | Vietnam In Context

Who? You and three others (a group of four)...

What? ...will be creating either a series of breaking news broadcasts or a talk show dealing featuring well-known individuals from the Vietnam War-era...

Why? ...in order to help you understand the politics and culture of the U.S. during the height of the Vietnam War.

When? You and your group will have approximately 1 week to work on this project. An approximate timeline is below.

NOTE: Definitely have fun with this project; there are a lot of opportunities for creativity. But, keep in mind that many people view Vietnam as a solemn event. Just be mindful to not cross certain boundaries of respect (i.e. be tasteful in your creativity).

➤ **DAY 1:**

- Decide with group on creating a series of newscasts or creating a talk show.
- Once you've decided, do the following:
 - **Newscasts:** Use your notes and the provided websites (and any other sources you choose) to learn about and eventually decide as a group on what you believe are the four most important events of the Vietnam War.
 - **Talk Show:** Briefly research the individuals on the list to get an idea of who they were (consider dividing them up), and share with your group; as a group, decide on four individuals (two politicians/military figures and two civilians) that would make for an interesting talk show (think The View, Oprah, Jerry Springer, or 60 Minutes).

➤ **DAY 2:**

- Do in-depth research on either your four events (newscast) or four individuals (talk show); consider dividing up the individuals among the four in your group (one event/person each) or by working with a partner in your group to research together (2 events/persons per pair). Make it easy on yourself for later... **ORGANIZE WHAT YOU FIND AS YOU RESEARCH!**
 - **Newscasts:** Think about the information that you need to prove that this is one of the most important events; also think about how people viewed these events as they occurred. Also, make sure to save or bookmark any

relevant images and maps, public opinion polls, music/entertainment, and opinions that you come across.

- **Talk Shows:** Gather enough information about the individuals you chose, to be able to develop a talk show in you can represent their:
 - Background
 - Views on the Vietnam War
 - Position in society
 - How they would interact with those with whom they agree and disagree

- **DAY 3:**
 - Finish researching and gathering information; get back together with your whole group and discuss what you've found.
 - Begin to brainstorm how to present the information in your chosen format (newscast or talk show).
 - Begin to write a script/storyboard

- **DAY 4:**
 - Finish script/storyboard
 - Begin filming

- **DAY 5+:**
 - Continue/finish filming
 - Begin post-filming production/editing