National History Day: Suggested Timeline
Basic Outline-Year Long Course

September
Introduction to History Day
- Read rule book and discuss theme

Building Historical Thinking and Research Skills
- How to conduct research; how to construct bibliography
- Primary and secondary sources

Topic and Category Selection
- Work on finding and narrowing topics
- Decide category and group or individual entry

October
Research
- Begin secondary source research using library resources
- Identify additional sources using bibliographies of secondary sources

November/December
Research
- Continue secondary source research and begin primary source research
- Make use of digital archives throughout research process

Thesis Development
- Construct strong, clear thesis statement

Project Development
- Begin creating entry
- Identify any images to be used in project

Evaluate Progress
- Thesis statement due

January
Project Development
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- Continue constructing entry

Evaluate Progress
- Preliminary bibliography due
- Outline/storyboard/rough draft due

Revision
- Use teacher feedback to improve project

February
Project Development
- Finalize entry
- Present and seek feedback from peers and adults

Evaluate Progress
- Finalize thesis statement
- Final bibliographies due
- Final project due

Revision
- Use feedback to improve project

School and District Competitions
- Prepare for presentation and interview questions at competition
- Present project at regional contests (February-March)

March-April
Revision
- State qualifiers continue to research and improve project based on judges’ feedback from regional competitions

State Competition
- April 23, 2016 at Mercer University, Macon

May-June Revision
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- National qualifiers revise projects for the national competition

**June**

National Competition

- June 12-16: National History Day Contest in College Park, Maryland