

ASB 301: Global History of Health

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## Assignment 3: You Design the Research

Download, fill in, and turn in this form. Read through the instructions to the end before you get started. Be sure to **use complete sentences where indicated**, and maintain this document's 1-inch margins, single-spacing, and 11-12pt font.

**Name:**

<b>Part 1: Brainstorming</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First, you should watch the assignment introduction video, read the provided reading on your chosen infectious disease from Assignment 2, and review your Assignment 2 answer sheet.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> <i>Do not worry if your Assignment 2 has not yet been graded. You should use your original answers to complete Assignment 3.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Now, you're ready to design your research study. Answer the questions below in <u>complete sentences</u>.</li> </ul>		
<p>(1) List <b>three</b> pieces of information from the provided reading that bring new insights to your conclusions from your historical research in Assignment 2. <u>Describe how each piece of information altered your previous ideas about the disease.</u> Be sure to note the <u>page number</u> where you found the new information so you can refer to it later. (10 points)</p> <p><u>Example:</u> Information #1: The smallpox vaccine was widely used in the early 1800s (p.206). When I read Livingstone and Livingstone (1865), I didn't realize the smallpox vaccine was already in use during their expeditions to Africa, where the Makololo people told them about the numerous smallpox deaths among their group.</p>		
<b>Information #1 and how this information altered your previous ideas</b>	<b>Information #2 and how this information altered your previous ideas</b>	<b>Information #3 and how this information altered your previous ideas</b>
The smallpox vaccine was widely used by the early 1800s (p. 206). When I read Livingstone and Livingstone (1865), I didn't realize the smallpox vaccine was already in use during their expeditions to Africa, where the Makololo people told them about the numerous smallpox deaths among	The role of trade routes in the spread of the Black Death during the 14th century is highlighted (p. 315). Initially, I believed the disease spread primarily through localized outbreaks. Still, this new information emphasizes the significance of international trade in disseminating the plague,	Advances in understanding the genetic mutations of the influenza virus have been significant since the early 20th century (p. 147). Previously, I thought that influenza's historical impact was less understood regarding its genetic evolution. Still, this new insight shows that scientific

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<p>their group. This information altered my previous ideas about the disease by showing that vaccination efforts were more widespread and earlier than I previously understood.</p>	<p>altering my perception of its global impact.</p>	<p>advancements have provided a deeper understanding of the virus's history and mutation patterns.</p>
<p>(2) What new questions <u>about the global health history</u> does this information raise for you? Write three questions, one related to each piece of information described above. (10 points)</p> <p><u>Example:</u> Question #1: When did the smallpox vaccine developed in Europe in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century first become available in Africa?</p>		
<p><b>Question #1</b></p>	<p><b>Question #2</b></p>	<p><b>Question #3</b></p>
<p>When did the smallpox vaccine developed in Europe in the early 19th century first become available in Africa?</p>	<p>How did international trade routes influence the spread of the Black Death in the 14th century?</p>	<p>What specific genetic mutations in the influenza virus were identified in the early 20th century, and how did these discoveries influence modern virology?</p>
<p><b>Part 2: Study Design</b> (30 points)</p>		
<p>(3) Design a study to investigate <u>one</u> of your three questions above. Be sure your questions above are related to the global history of the health of the disease. To help with your study design, answer the following questions:</p>		
<p>(a) First, which question did you choose?</p>	<p>How did international trade routes influence the spread of the Black Death in the 14th century?</p>	
<p>(b) What geographic area(s) will be the focus of your research and why?</p>	<p>The primary geographic focus will be Europe and Asia, specifically areas along the Silk Road and major trade ports like Constantinople and Venice. These regions are chosen for their historical significance as significant trade hubs during the 14th century.</p>	
<p>(c) What types of evidence (e.g., paleopathological, ancient DNA, historical documents, etc.) will you need to examine and why?</p>	<p>The evidence needed includes historical trade records, archaeological findings of plague victims, and genetic studies of Yersinia pestis (the bacterium that causes the plague) from ancient DNA samples. These types of evidence will provide a comprehensive view of how trade routes facilitated the spread of the disease.</p>	

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(d) What types of experts (e.g., archaeologists, paleopathologists, historians, etc.) will you collaborate with to obtain this evidence and why?	The collaboration will involve historians specializing in medieval trade, archaeologists with expertise in 14th-century Europe and Asia, and geneticists focusing on ancient DNA analysis. These experts are crucial for obtaining and interpreting the multidisciplinary evidence needed for this study.
(e) How will you compare these different types of evidence?	Different types of evidence will be compared by synthesizing historical records, archaeological findings, and genetic data. This multidisciplinary approach will provide a comprehensive understanding of the spread of the Black Death.
(f) What social and political factors will you consider?	Social factors include population movements, urbanization, and the role of merchants and traders. Political factors encompass the policies of different empires and states controlling trade routes. These factors are essential as they influenced the movement of people and goods, which affected the plague's spread.
(g) What environmental factors will you consider?	Environmental factors such as climate, geography, and rodents and fleas (vectors for the plague) will be considered. These factors played a significant role in the spread and persistence of the disease.
(h) What results do you anticipate?	The study is anticipated to show a strong correlation between the major trade routes and the spread of the Black Death, highlighting the role of merchants and trade networks in rapidly disseminating the disease. This will underscore the interconnectedness of medieval societies and the impact of global trade on public health.

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