WWI Researched Poster/Mini-research essay/Presentation – 30% of semester grade
Assignment Guidelines, Topics, Instructions

Due - Tuesday, February 20 or Thursday, February 22
We will draw lots to see who goes when. I prefer to leave it to fate rather than assign dates. You may have the option to switch with a friend if you do not get your preferred day. No pressuring anyone, though. The poster is due on your presentation date. The essay is due on the 22nd. You should obviously write a superb essay, but there will be an opportunity for revision.

Essay portion
MLA format – Be sure your header and spacing are correct. Use Times New Roman 12. Your Works Cited has correct formatting for each source! Length – 3-4 pages, typed double space, plus a Works Cited page; therefore you will have 4-5 total pages. (Works Cited is a numbered page).
Sources and quoted material– You must use at least one worthy quotation from To End All Wars. You must quote lines from your poem. You must quote from a source on your poem. You must quote from sources on whatever your broader topic, beyond the poem, is. For example, if you are writing on John French and cavalry, you would quote from various books and articles that you can find in our library/through our databases. Most likely, in your finished essay, you would have at least 6-7 quotations of various sorts, and at least 4-5 sources. Obviously, you do not want a page-long quotation.
Title – Be sure it is centered. A sample poster and paper title (based on the use of gas and using a Wilfred Owen poem) is:
Gas Attack: Wilfred Owen in the Trenches

Essay Structure
1. To begin your essay, in one-two paragraphs, provide a written overview of your poster – what inspired you to choose this topic, and why did you include the images and poem you did? How do these choices best represent your topic? What did you learn? What intrigued you? In these paragraphs, you are presenting the meaning of your poster in words. (You can use “I” in this section).
2. Now move on to the analysis and research. You need an introductory paragraph with a thesis statement. What is the focus of your paper? Your larger topic is about a person, place/event, social movement, etc. to do with WWI and the British. You will be discussing/presenting your topic through research sources and also creatively tying things together, using a poem and images (images are on your poster only).
3. Discuss the meaning of your poem – be sure to include poet and title, punctuated properly. Give a brief summary of the poem. Then, YOU must delve into the meaning of the poem – do NOT merely summarize someone’s explanation from a website or google. Focus specifically on a few lines in the poem that are the most significant to this poem and subject, and perhaps those most significant to the theme of your poster. You should quote from a source of research, and you should definitely quote a couple of lines from the poem that help illustrate your point.
4. Works Cited
On your Works Cited should be all the sources you used on your poster and in your essay. Cite the poem and poet (and the website or book from which you took it); Cite To End All Wars; Cite any other books and websites you used to get photos or other quotations from.

A reminder that you refer to or cite poetry titles (and article titles) in quotation marks:
“Strange Meeting”
Cite book titles (and movie titles) in italics: To End All Wars

Also, check your formatting of your Works Cited!
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/
Working Sessions in Class – yes, you must attend class!! You will have started to look for things before these, but these are very helpful sessions. Thursday, February 8 and 13.

We will be meeting in the library classroom (program room upstairs) on those days.

Bring To End All Wars, handouts, laptop, and any other things you are looking at. We will also look at materials on reserve. On library site: Course guide for ENGL 2200: The First World War

Poster Size:
You have choices (based on my Staples research) It depends on how fancy you want to get! You should choose the size that best fits your project. Bigger may not necessarily be better. And there can be such a thing as too small. It depends on how you use space and what you want to show. Really think about this.

- Regular, white poster board 22”x28” Is a color appropriate? White can be better for this. But again, make a wise choice.
- Elmer’s® Sturdy Board® Foam Board, 30” x 40”, White (or other brand, same size)
- Or a trifold type - Royal Brites® Z Fold Display Board Stock, 14” x 33”
- Some students have made beautiful posters online and printed them. That works, too. No gluing needed! And cost is about the same for printing a poster vs. buying supplies.

Visual appeal:
Clear heading on top with the name of your project and your name (larger title, a bit smaller for your name)
Clear, organized, effective, bold where needed – choice of font(s)
Balanced combination of text and photos, drawings, graphs, or other visual
Able to be explained at a poster session – we will hang them up in our room and enjoy the show! You will present your poster to the class.

Font:
Does not have to be Times New Roman 12, but it should be readable, and it is wise to use no more than two different fonts and to keep consistency – obviously the size will vary for needs – larger for heading, smaller, but not miniscule for text

WWI Paper/Poster/Presentation Topic Possibilities (you might think of another)

People

Battles
The Somme, Ypres, Passchendaele, Mons, the Marne, Gallipoli, Arras

Weapons
Bayonets, Barbed Wire, Gas, Tank, Airplane, Machine gun, Rifle, Cavalry

Events
Easter Uprising, Armistice,
NO Christmas Truce (materials are not good on it. Too much hearsay. Poetry too difficult to find.)

Movements
Suffrage, Labor Party, Conscientious Objectors

Other
Shell Shock/war neurosis, the last week of the war, the first week of the war, Craiglockhart, Dr. Rivers
Dr. Yealland, WWI medicine (physical or psychological), WWI nurses, WWI music, art, propaganda

So how do you combine what you have learned from *To End All Wars*, a poem, and a topic?

**Example** – The Somme, First day of the Somme (July 1, 1916), Lochnagar Crater, Harry Fellowes poetry. Undermining, casualties high, etc. (British had hoped to end the war this day. Instead, the Battle of the Somme lasted 141 days. July 1, 1916 - November 18, 1916. Aftermath. The Crater, the Peace ceremony, the village, the cemeteries.

**Helpful Link on Preparing Posters in the Humanities:**
http://rgettatwestern.wordpress.com/2013/02/21/design-tips-for-creating-arts-and-humanities-poster/

Sample poster from a WIT student.