TEAM INVESTIGATIONS
25% of your final grade

Each team will teach our class for 20-25 minutes on an assigned topic. You should offer a visual presentation (PowerPoint, Prezzi, videos), and you should actively engage the rest of the class, perhaps through hand-outs or discussion prompts or even quick activities and games. All team members will receive the same grade.

Keep in mind as you conduct research:

You must use at least 5 sources, and 4 of them must be written (not video, e.g.). You should aim to collect credible, persuasive sources: articles, books, appropriate websites. You can consult our class’s Course Guide created by Reference Librarian Dan O’Connell, as well as sources available on our Blackboard site. No more than two sources can come from those sites. Encyclopedias are not allowed. Articles from other college courses are not allowed.

Your presentation should move between “macro” and “micro” levels, offering an overview and also delving into specifics.

As you prepare your presentation, ask yourselves these questions:

How will this presentation fit into the course? In other words, how will it become a part of our semester-long conversation?

What are the 3 or 4 main points your classmates should know at the conclusion?

On the day of your presentation:

You should dress for the occasion. Someone on the team should email me your visual presentation before you present. Someone on the team should bring a laptop from which to project. All of you should speak during the 20-25 minutes. You should not read aloud as you teach, but of course you may consult notes.

**NOTE:** If you decide to use hand-outs, I can copy them for you if you get them to me by 9am on the day of your presentation.
Please remember that you must cite sources for slides—either in the notes field or on the slide itself.

Schedule of presentations:

June 13
The Laki Volcano and eruption of 1783
Tree rings as proxy data
The Erie Canal.

June 18
The effects of Tambora in China
The Great Unknown Volcano
Ice cores as proxy data.

On June 20 all teams, no matter when you have presented must turn in the written component of your investigation, which will consist of:

- An introductory paragraph
- An explanation of each slide (at least one paragraph per slide, in complete sentences)
- A Works Cited page
- Copies of any hand-outs
- A table showing who took responsibility for what

Consult the Purdue OWL for help with MLA citation format:

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

https://style.mla.org/