

HIST 2302
ESSAY 2 Prompt and Rubric
(100 points)

Essay 2 should be between 500 and 750 words (2-3 pages), and will make up 10% of your total grade (100 points). The essay should be typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins, using proper *Chicago Manual of Style* citations, and turned in as a hard copy before the beginning of class on Thursday March 1.

For this essay, discuss how Paul Allyn's *The 47 Ronin Story* relates to the following three (3) themes: (1) Chinese culture in Japan; (2) distinctions of class in Japanese society; and (3) the nature of Japanese government in the eighteenth century. The essay should include references to both the book and the context provided in lectures, and, most importantly, it should show your interpretation of the text and its relation to the themes rather than just stating the facts. The essay should include an introduction and conclusion, and be sure to provide a thesis statement that clearly and directly responds to the essay prompt.

CRITERIA FOR GRADING	POINTS
THESIS (30 points) ___ The thesis is clear, concise, and provides an argument with reason ___ The thesis directly relates to the essay prompt ___ The thesis is easily found within the introduction	
CONTENT (50 points) ___ The essay provides clear, organized evidence for each theme ___ The essay provides proper historical context for each theme ___ The essay connects each theme to the thesis/argument ___ The essay shows interpretation of the text and its relation to the themes ___ The essay is organized and communicates ideas clearly	
MECHANICS (20 points) ___ The essay uses proper <i>Chicago Manual of Style</i> citations ___ The essay meets the required word count	