**GENIUS HOUR ASSIGNMENT**

**What is it?**

Genius Hour is inspired by Sergey Brin and Larry Page’s Montessori school experience. It is a philosophy and policy that every Google employee spend 20% of their time working on projects that are of interest to them. The only caveat being that the project had to be something that they thought would advance the company. They are encouraged to do work that is not part of their day to day job and explore anything that interests them. By 2009, 50% of all Google products, including Gmail, emerged during this 20% free time.

**Why are we doing it in class?**

Your Genius Hour project is all about you! It encourages you to explore your own passions and creativity. This is an inquiry based project, and there isn’t a right answer. The focus shifts from focusing on getting the correct response, to exploring your own learning and thinking processes. . For once, it's not about what I think you should learn, but what you really want to learn.

**Steps to completing your genius hour assignment:**

1. **You will be developing an Essential Question to guide your research.** This will be developed through classroom brainstorming activities, individual research, peer feedback and student/teacher conferences. **Here is a link to the google doc version of the** [**Essential Questions handout.**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1n6H7qZMmfQyUwUI8dV91PtI8Cnt69PxHgmrBMFFIIQ8/edit?usp=sharing)
2. **You will create a** [**90 Second Elevator Pitch**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J8bl0NFI06Ic5vcSDYCepKE8cgzz6-z9H6ZjI4EoJW0/edit?usp=sharing) **to pitch your idea to your classmates.** This is an opportunity for you to share ideas with your classmates, enhance your presentation skills and acquire constructive feedback that can be used to help you further develop your project.
3. **You will be creating a** [**Learning Blog/Vlog**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KvQ_MT2wcRkUhvWtVAvhtpbY7RsjDvRUefVyWVyl6iE/edit?usp=sharing)**. This will be a place for you to share your learning reflections with your teacher and fellow students.**
4. **At the end of your project you will submit an** [**Annotated Bibliography**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KvQ_MT2wcRkUhvWtVAvhtpbY7RsjDvRUefVyWVyl6iE/edit?usp=sharing) **of at least 8 sources.**
5. **You will create a final** [**Presentation**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KvQ_MT2wcRkUhvWtVAvhtpbY7RsjDvRUefVyWVyl6iE/edit?usp=sharing)**. Here is a link to your final project** [**rubric**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cqjzd0e2RGlS5NoeVGqkoSxRA6NXeF89i-Y1bihCqmU/edit?usp=sharing)**.**