



NAME

Area 51 and Other Conspiracy Theories: Critically Analyzing to Assess Validity

DESCRIPTION

Is Area 51 worth storming? Did Bey and Jay-Z really sacrifice their first child for the Illuminati? How can we prove the earth isn't flat? Through finding reliable researched evidence, we will determine the validity of some of the most popular conspiracy theories. We will begin by discussing the endless theories surrounding people, places, and events. This will be a gathering of all the theories to explore for your project, where you debunk a conspiracy theory using reliable evidence, synthesis, and critical thinking. As a class, we will analyze the theories by some of the top conspiracy theorists, while discussing the dangers of these theories. We will be supported in our evidence collection by a specialist in research and fact-checking. This seminar will be full of lively discussions, critical thinking, and critical reading. In the end, the community is relying on you to tell them what to believe and what not to believe. Don't let them down! Your fact finding mission begins now!

DRIVING QUESTION

What amounts of both fact and fiction are stored within conspiracy theories, and how do we use evidence to determine the validity surrounding these theories?

FINAL PROJECT OPTION

Create a report consisting of multiple sources, data, and a cover page, and presentation using evidence, synthesis, and critical thinking to debunk a conspiracy theory from the following list:

- Area 51
- The Mandela Effect
- Moon Landing
- Death and/or assassination of JFK or Tupac or Amelia Earhart

Create a report and presentation using evidence, synthesis, and critical thinking to debunk a conspiracy theory from your own research or interest. Be sure to pass the topic by Ms. Spector in the proposal stages.

ACADEMIC MASTERY CREDIT PATHWAYS

Literature Analysis, Written Expression, Problem Solving and Critical Thinking, Inquiry Research, Oral Fluency

MILESTONES *(Subject to change, see myLC for assigned tasks in real time.)*

Week	Milestone
1	Notes on popular conspiracy theories.
2	Independent film analysis
3	Selection of theory to explore.
4	Evidence collection with resources.
5	Formulate evidence and graphs into a draft form of a report.
6	The written report is passed through peer editing and revised.
7	Presentation created and present your findings to the larger group.