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## Alternative Final Project 1619 Project Mentor Research

All of the voices you encounter in the 1619 Project research deeply. You only need to take a look at the footnotes for each chapter. They read prolifically, explore prolifically, and deep dive into all kinds of things, but especially about their own area of expertise.

### Choosing a Mentor

Choose a 1619 Project mentor by picking one of the chapters in [The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story](#). The author of that chapter is your new mentor. You can choose your mentor for any reason, but there should be a distinct reason why you chose your mentor.

My 1619 Mentor

My rationale (reason) for choosing my 1619 Mentor

Read the chapter your mentor wrote for The 1619 Project. Record facts that stand out. What thoughts, reactions, or questions do you have after learning these facts?

Now explore their other bodies of work. What do you find significant and important?

Now explore their life story. What is significant and important about their experiences?

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Vocal Justice Scholars research extensively. We follow a path that leads to another path that leads to another path, and on and on. (For example, when we researched Nikole Hannah-Jones, we learned that the University of North Carolina wouldn't give her tenure, so she headed to Howard University; as a result, we went and learned that Howard University is a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) that is famous for producing some of the greatest minds in the United States including our current Vice President Kamala Harris.

Follow a line of research that takes you to at least three different new learnings and record your new learnings.

Putting it all Together

Why did Nikole Hannah-Jones want your mentor to be a part of The 1619 Project?

After learning about your mentor's past experiences and body of work, what new understandings can you describe about their unique contributions to The 1619 Project?

What have you learned from your mentor that you can apply to your life or the world we live in?

Choose One or More Questions

- What are you curious to learn more about?
- What questions do you have for your mentor?
- What do you want others to know about or learn from your mentor?

We strongly encourage you to reach out to your mentor. Let them know what you learned from them. Let you know how they may have changed your perspective or reinforced it. Let them know how their body of work, contributions to The 1619 Project, or their lived experiences have impacted you. Let them know how you intend to use your new knowledge. Ask them questions. Invite them to visit our class.