experiences or background engage the themes of AAS 101. This organizational approach may in fact work, depending on how you handle it, but it may also give your paper a sense of disjointedness. Instead, consider weaving narrative and criticism together throughout your entire paper. Whatever approach you choose, think carefully about it beforehand and ask yourself if there isn’t a better way of organizing and presenting your information.

Professor Nomura’s Instructions for the Final Paper:

**Research Paper Option:** Students must write a short research paper (5-7 pages, typed, double-spaced) exploring some aspect of the history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans in the Pacific Northwest. For example, you may choose to write a critical analysis of an oral history conducted by you with an Asian American family member, friend, or acquaintance or you might write a history and analysis of Asian American and Pacific Islander American community leaders, organizations, businesses, historical events or movements, etc. You must use some primary source material for your research. Primary sources are original sources contemporary with the thought or event to which it refers (e.g. government documents, interview transcript or recording, newspaper reports, correspondence, etc.) You must hand in a research proposal and discuss your paper with your teaching assistant to secure their approval of your paper topic. You must submit two copies of the final paper. Your paper should properly cite your sources and have an annotated bibliography of works cited. You must attach a copy of relevant portions of your primary source material to your final paper. A good resource for information on Asian Americans in Washington State is the University of Washington Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest website: http://www.washington.edu/uwired/outreach/cspn/curaaw/main.html

**OR**

**Oral History Option:** If you choose the oral history option for your research paper, you will conduct an oral history interview of an Asian American person. Your goal is to learn about this person’s life and how this person’s experiences illuminate certain issues covered in this course.

1. Select a topic, period, person, or event in Asian American history you are interested in learning more about.
2. Identify an Asian American person who has significant information to convey about your topic. You may choose anyone 18 years of age or older. Your interviewee may be someone you know well, such as a friend, parent, or grandparent.
3. Your teaching assistant must approve your proposed topic for your report. Submit by October 15 a brief proposal [a paragraph will be sufficient] to your teaching assistant indicating the topic of your report, the person or type of person you will interview and why you chose this person, and what you hope to accomplish. Your TA will inform you by the next class period if there are any problems with your project.
4. You should do background research into your topic before conducting your interview. Background information will help you design better interview questions and help you understand what is conveyed to you. Often, an interviewee may not remember a key event until the interviewer is able to provide information to trigger that memory.
5. Formulate interview questions designed to elicit the information you are seeking regarding your topic. You should remember to collect demographic and background information such as date of birth, place of birth, birth order, sex, ethnicity, education, occupation, family background, etc.
6. Schedule your interview. You should allow at least one hour for the interview. Some people might prefer several shorter sessions rather than one long session. Let the person know what the purpose of the interview is and what kinds of question you are going to ask.
7. You should either tape record or videotape your interview. Ask the interviewee for permission to record the interview.
8. Before you begin the interview, inform the interviewee of the purpose of the interview and explain what you will doing with your notes, recordings, transcriptions, and report. Have the interviewee sign
9. Conduct the interview. Record the interview and be sure to also take good notes. You should ask questions that elicit as much information as possible about the interviewee's experiences and thoughts associated with your research topic.

10. Immediately after the interview, you should record your thoughts and ideas before you forget them.

11. Transcribe your interview. Check with your interviewee regarding questions of spelling or wording. You should show the interviewee the transcription and allow the interviewee to make corrections.

12. Write a five to seven (5-7) page report [typed, double spaced] on your oral history interview. The report should include the name of the interviewee and the date of the interview, a brief biography of the interviewee, a summary of the main points or topics covered in the interview and your thoughts on and analysis of the information you obtained. You should focus on how the interviewee’s experiences illuminate your topic. Integrate into your analysis materials from this course as well as relevant outside research. Use quotations [direct words of the interviewee] to illustrate points you wish to make but do not write a paper based on a series of long quotations with little analysis. You must clearly state the points you wish to make and use quotations to help the reader understand more of Asian American history through the experience of this person. Be sure to properly cite your sources and include an annotated bibliography of your sources. Submit two (2) copies of your paper.

13. For documentation, attach with your paper: 1) a list of the interview questions, 2) the notes you took during the interview, 3) the signed Interview Consent Form, and 4) recordings made during the interview.

14. You should write a thank you note and give a copy of your transcription and report to your interviewee.