

## **Guidelines for your (in)famous impostors mini research project**

1.

- Select your character
- Research (Wikipedia is OK to help you choose your name but you need at least three other sources, which may include the books by Graham, Barton and Rosental/Schäfer)
- Explain why you chose this character (sympathy, repudiation, seductiveness, historical relevance, etc.)
- Summarize impostor's bio
- What was the key to this impostor's success?
- What are some curiosities about this character your audience should know?
- Include photographs/images
- Sketch the image that would best represent the life of this impostor (optional—this could lead to a final project and may or may not be included in your post)
- Write a piece of creative writing inspired by your impostor (optional—this could lead to a final project and may or may not be included in your post)
- Write an essay comparing this impostor to one or more of real or fictional impostors studied in class (optional—this could lead to a final project and may or may not be included in your post)
- Create a post that summarizes your findings in a compelling, attractive and well presented manner. Don't forget to include your sources.

2.

Here is a selection of names taken from Ian Graham's *The Ultimate Book of Impostors* and Chris Barton's *Can I See Your I.D.?*

### **Serial impostors**

Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter  
Stanley Clifford Weyman  
Mata Hari  
Cassie L. Chadwick  
Ferdinand Waldo Demara, Jr.

### **Gender benders**

James Miranda Stuart Barry  
Albert D. J. Cashier  
Catalina de Erauso, also known in Spanish as La Monja Alférez  
Charles-Geneviève-Louis-Auguste-André-Timothée d'Éon de Beaumont  
Ellen Craft

### **More Frauds**

Victor Lustig  
Gregor MacGregor  
Keron Thomas  
Princess Caraboo

### **Crossing race lines**

Chief Buffalo Child Long Lance  
Asa Earl Carter

3.

These are examples of artwork that evokes imposture. Can you think of other examples that may suit your impostor?

René Magritte, “La reproduction interdite” or “Les amantes”

