

Humanities 12 Assignment: Issue Group Presentation

Purpose: There are several purposes for this assignment

- To help you understand how you can use First Amendment freedoms to solve the most critical issues of the 21st century. Our freedoms aren't valuable unless you use them.
- To give you practice working in a group to analyze, synthesize, and present information
- To deepen your thinking about which First Amendment freedoms to feature in your video and give you examples to cite to support your argument
- To put you in the position of a change agent, someone who uses our political process to serve others.

The assignment: An informative group presentation to our class about your chosen issue and its relationship to the First Amendment. The presentation must contain the following parts:

1. A compelling vision statement
2. A description of the problem that keep this vision from becoming a reality
 - a. the primary and secondary effects of problem
 - b. how the problem affects or will affect individual people
 - c. statistics that illustrate the scope and seriousness of the problem
3. An analysis of the problem
 - a. description of the direct and indirect causes of the problem
 - b. description of the decision-makers with power to take action
 - c. stakeholders who support a solution to the problem
 - d. stakeholders who oppose a solution to the problem
 - e. explanation of why the problem still exists
 - f. relationship between the causes of the problem and the First Amendment rights, either in this country or abroad
4. A strategy to improve the situation
 - a. an explanation of the strategy
 - b. your rationale for choosing this strategy
 - c. the direct and indirect impacts the strategy will have
 - d. the level of government (e.g. federal, state, local) involved in the strategy
 - e. the resources (e.g. money, people) to implement the strategy
 - f. the first steps in implementing your strategy
5. A description of how you will use the First Amendment to carry out your strategy
 - a. the First Amendment freedoms most important for your strategy
 - b. threats to those freedoms that could reduce your effectiveness
 - c. support you might need to counter those threats
 - d. a judicial decision relevant to your use of those freedoms (if applicable)

6. A description of unanswered questions
 - a. uncertainties you have about your analysis and your chosen strategy
 - b. additional information that you would like to have
 - c. feedback from our class that would be most helpful to thinking about the issue
 - d. listing of sources for specific information or arguments

Presentations should be roughly 10 minutes in length and provide for equal involvement of all members of your group.

You should incorporate some visual component: powerpoint slides, a poster, a video, photos, websites from other organizations, etc. that adds depth and clarity to your presentation.

When: In Class, Tuesday, October 7th

Evaluation

The presentation will be worth 30 points in the formative assignment category. This is the equivalent of three seminars.

Content – I will evaluate the quality of the information you present, including the credibility of your sources, the logic of your assertions, and the originality and depth of your analysis. As a whole the content of your presentation will be worth 20 points

- Description (3 points)
- Analysis (5 points)
- Strategy (5 points)
- Use of the First Amendment (4 points)
- Unanswered questions (3 points)

Style – I will evaluate the quality of your presentation, including your professionalism, organization, creativity, writing, and your use of visuals to support your argument. The transitions from one presenter to the next will also count. The style portion of your score will be worth 10 points.