CWA: Civic Inquiry Project – 100 Points – Group, Pairs or Individual

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Team Members: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

General Objective:

Students will work to identify and clearly communicate a community issue / problem, conduct research as to its symptoms and root causes and offer a workable solution to be delivered to the person or group that has the power to affect the suggested solution.

Requirements:

1. Each group’s completion of all relevant preparation forms
2. Construction of a clear, researchable inquiry question that addresses an authentic, researchable community problem
3. A 4-5 minute in-class Power-point, Prezi, News Report (Live or on Video) or Poster Board presentation to your peers that includes explanation of:
   1. Your well-constructed “Inquiry Question” that addresses an authentic, relevant community problem (What is it? Why did you choose it?);
   2. A summary of your research investigation process (What did you do to find out the answer to your research question? What was difficult? What was easy?);
   3. A summary of your research data (In charts, graphs and bullet points);
   4. The Civic Action your group initiated to raise awareness of and present potential solutions to the issue / problem;
   5. A 1-2 minute PSA or Soapbox Speech that identifies / clarifies “the why” of the problem, presents the opposing point of view, refutes it with evidence, offers a solution and calls the community to action;
   6. A bibliography / information source list of both your background and data sources (MLA Format);
4. Each student’s 1-2 page typed personal reflection of the project that describes and explains in detail why YOU chose to try and solve THIS particular issue / problem, your team’s process and effectiveness, your personal role in helping the team identify / define the issue and find solutions to the issue / problem AND what you intend to do next (maintaining the civic action) to see it through. (Standard 1” margins, 12 point Arial non-bold font, written in high school level academic language that is proofread and without flaw, MLA format including a minimum of three distinct sources);
5. Proof of your conducting a “civic action” such as copy of any documents you created and forwarded to decision makers, selfies of you in action with and without your teammates.
   1. Suggested “civic actions” include: presenting your PSA / speech to a public audience, organizing / participating in a flash mob, protest action or boycott by social media use, creating / monitoring a community blog or Facebook page, host a community event / discussion, visit & present your cause to other classrooms, create & post a webinar, create / initiate a petition and present it to relevant decision makers

Civic Action Project Inquiry Essential Questions

Is Glendale HS Safe?

What safety related issues does Glendale HS currently face?

What can be done to improve the safety and well-being of GHS students?

Civic Inquiry Topic Options:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| GHS Community Health:  -Student Hygiene & Cleanliness  -Drug / Alcohol / Tobacco Abuse  -Support for Student Needs | GHS Community Interaction:  -On campus violence / threats  -Off Campus violence / threats  -Sexual Harassment  -Respect between persons  -Theft |
| GHS Facilities:  -Availability of Restrooms / Supplies  -Trash  -Student Classrooms / Furniture  -Campus Cleanliness  -Tagging | GHS Community Logistics:  -On campus passing period traffic  -Street drop-off / pick-up traffic  -Skateboard / other traffic  -Clothing / phone / etc. policy |

If your group has another concern relative to the Essential Questions they may present it for approval by the course instructor. Describe it below:

Form 2: Civic Action Project Investigation Process

|  |
| --- |
| What is your topic? |
| What is your researchable Civic Action Investigation Question?  What is your hypothesis? |
| What type of Civic Action Investigation (research) will you conduct?  How will you find out the true situation?  -Background:  -Current Project Research: |
| How will your tasks be distributed? Who will do what?  -Background Research (All, but can be divided up based on Q):  -Current Research Data Collection & Analysis:  -Written / Visual Summary of Findings:  -Presentation Construction:  -Presenter of the Team’s Findings:  -PSA / Soapbox speech construction & delivery:  -Civic Action Organization, Implementation & Recording: |

Form 3: Public Service Announcement (PSA) or Soapbox Speech

Your group will create, write and perform a 1 – 2 minute PSA **OR** Soapbox Speech to inform, raise awareness for and persuade the audience to act on the topic that you feel is important. The topic should be something that you see as problematic and requiring help from people to get it resolved.

Once the topic and actors / speakers are selected your group should…

1. Brainstorm and write down what compelling imagery and words should be included:
2. What evidence is the most compelling? What statistics and facts should be included?
3. What true story or example could be included to support your case?
4. Construct an attention getting introductory sentence that grabs the audience right away.
5. What do you want the audience to do to help solve this problem?
6. Type or neatly print the draft of the script / speech, edit for errors and impact, re-write the final version. Final Version MUST be typed.
7. Practice and time the PSA / Speech. Film, record and edit your PSA OR rehearse your speech in front of a mirror or small sample audience.

Civic Action Group Project Rubric:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Phase | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Preparation, Notes & Handouts | All required forms completed in a superior manner | All required forms completed in a proficient manner | Required forms mostly completed in a proficient manner | Some forms completed, most done in a basic manner | Forms not completed or done proficiently |
| Overall Presentation | Presentation is clear & fully covers all requirements in a superior manner | Presentation is mostly clear & covers most requirements in a proficient manner | Presentation is inconsistently clear & meets only some requirements | Presentation is minimally clear & meets few requirements | No presentation attempted |
| Presentation of Research Data & Process | Presented in a superior manner with very detailed data | Presented in a proficient manner with sufficient data | Presented in a basic manner with some data | Presentation attempted but with limited or unclear data | No summary submitted |
| PSA or Soapbox speech | PSA / Speech clearly communicates the issue & why it is a problem; meets all requirements in a superior way | PSA / Speech mostly communicates the issue & why it is a problem; meets most requirements in a proficient way | PSA / Speech somewhat communicates the issue & why it is a problem; meets some requirements in a proficient way | PSA / speech minimally communicates the issue & why it is a problem; requirements met in a basic manner | No PSA / speech submitted |
| Civic Action Taken | Civic Action format is relevant, involves democratic processes, uses a variety of tools & meets all requirements in a superior way | Civic Action is relevant, involves some democratic processes, uses a single tool well & meets most requirements in a proficient way | Civic Action is relevant, organized, explored but may not have been fully completed & meets some requirements in a proficient way | Civic Action attempted but is minimally relevant, poorly organized, not completed & meets requirements minimally | No Civic Action attempted |
| Subtotal |  | + | + | + | + |
| Total |  |  |  |  | = |
| Letter  Grade |  |  |  |  |  |

**Form 1: Civic Action Project Group Topic Issue Tree – The First Step in Inquiry**

Individually think about the issue you have chosen to research. What are the visible signs of it being a problem? What do you believe to be the basic “root” causes of the problem?

AS a group, complete this “Tree Diagram” as an initial step to writing your research question & forming your hypothesis

**Visible Signs of the Issue / Problem**

**Issue / Problem – Subject of the Research**

**Possible Root Causes of the Issue / Problem**