

## Final Project

# AP Government

For the remainder of the year, you will have one final assignment in AP Government. You may choose any of the following options.

1. Choose a significant problem in American politics. Research the causes of that problem. Then create a solution to alleviate the problem.

- First, write a brief paper that identifies the problem and its causes. You will want to establish that this is a significant problem. Perhaps the best way to do this is by presenting statistics, specific examples, or quotations from experts. Remember that any time you use someone else's words or ideas or you present information that is not common knowledge, you need to give credit to your source with an in-text citation. The second part of the paper probes beneath the surface of your problem. What is it that actually causes this problem? After all, how can we devise a solution that will really work if we don't investigate the roots or causes of the problem? This paper should be one-two pages in length, typed and double-spaced.
- Next, decide what you are going to do about this problem. Design an action project that addresses one of the causes you identified and prepare a short proposal (1 to 2 pages). Please include the following information in your proposal.
  - What action will you take?
  - Where will you do this? If relevant, what agency?
  - How does this action address one of the causes of the problem you identified in your initial paper?

Who can participate in the solution.

2. Make a short video on a significant topic related to US government or politics.

- Prepare one video of five to eight minutes.
- Be sure to obtain my approval for your topic **before** beginning work on your video.
- In addition, prepare an outline of background information that identifies and expands on the material presented in the video. **One page Maximum.**
- General format
  - **No re-enactments**
  - Consider the Ken Burns Civil War series as a model.
    - ❖ Still images
      - Photographs of relevant individuals
      - Newspaper pages
      - Setting (e.g., the campus of Kent State, the battlefield at Gettysburg)
      - Photos of artifacts relevant to the topic (e.g., a punch-card voting machine, a butterfly ballot, a hanging chad)
    - ❖ Documentary footage (e.g., television news coverage of the President Obama's Inaugural Address or of the war in Afghanistan). This should not be a majority of your video.
    - ❖ Maps, charts, graphs, etc.
    - ❖ Voice-over narration
    - ❖ Appropriate background music
  - You may include end credits identifying you and your crew

3. Choose a topic related to American government or politics that the class or text touched on only slightly and that you would like to explore further. Research that topic and create a lesson plan.

\*You must include:

Opening Activity

Content Sharing-this needs to be in the form of technology

Vocabulary Activity -no crosswords or word searches

Closing Activity

\*This must be able to be presented and I will pick one portion that will be done with the class.

4. Your own idea.

- This must be related to American government and politics.
- This must be comparable in scope to the other options.
- This must contain a written component.
- This must be approved in advance by the instructor.

Each of these options is worth 100 points.

Some class time in the computer lab or library will be provided.

You will need to have a conference with me. At this conference, be prepared to show/discuss me what you plan to do.