

November 5 AP Prep Session Make-Up: The Current Issue Project

Primary Learning Goals:

You will understand how to:

- Write argumentatively and persuasively about a public discourse issue;
- Assess what you already know about an issue of interest to you;
- Research the background and gather data on this issue;
- Present specific claims and address opposing arguments depending on audience;
- Apply different rhetorical strategies used in texts designed to persuade specific audiences and use them effectively in your writing;
- Employ effective arrangement strategies according to primary audience
- Discern the effectiveness of specific genres directed to specific audiences, the relationship between function and form;
- Effectively employ schemes and tropes in a text
- Explore and address diverse viewpoints on an issue
- Synthesize material from various and diverse sources.

The Project and Assessments:

- You will research a specific, current controversial issue of interest to you. **You may choose evolution vs. intelligent design, abortion, gun control, immigration, marijuana legalization, or gay marriage for this assignment.** If you don't like one of these topics, you may choose one of your own liking with Mr. Hennig's approval.
- You will research the issue by exploring newspapers, TV news programs and ads (if relevant), magazines, books (for background and context) and relevant websites. You must cite **at least four different sources** in a bibliography encompassing the entire project.
- You will compose three persuasive essays about your issue, each directed to a specific audience:
 - Those who agree with you
 - The undecided or apathetic
 - Your opponents.
- Accompanying each essay you will submit to me a second copy that you have meticulously annotated, highlighting the rhetorical strategies you employed.
 - **Just to be clear**, you are submitting **two copies** of each essay. One that is clean with no markings. The other that is neatly and precisely annotated as instructed above.
- The essays should be at least 1½ pages **each**, typed in MLA format.
- On the due date, you will submit your persuasive essays, annotated copies, bibliography, and self-evaluation.

Self-Evaluation Questions:

1. Did you stick with your original topic or did you change it along the way? Why?
2. Briefly discuss the rationale for the major changes you made in each piece.
3. What problems did you encounter during the process of creating the project?
4. What part of your project are you most proud of? Why?

DUE DATE: Monday, November 28, 2016