

CHV20 – Summative

An important part of Civics is understanding your duty to engage with the political system. Even as a high school student, you have the opportunity to affect change on a large scale. During this course, you will choose an issue that you personally feel strongly about, and you will explore what can be done about that issue.

Part 1: Choose a civic issue that interests you

Due date: Sept. 24

We have talked about various civic issues at the local, national, and global levels. You are going to choose one of these issues to look at and engage with. At this stage you will be looking at both primary and secondary sources to provide context and perspective on this issue that you are exploring. **A primary source provides direct or firsthand evidence about an event, object, person, etc. These include historical and legal documents, eyewitness accounts, results of experiments, statistical data, pieces of creative writing, audio and video recordings, speeches, interviews, surveys, emails, blogs, and newsgroups. A secondary source describes, discusses, interprets, comments upon, analyzes, evaluates, summarizes, and processes primary sources. These include articles in newspapers or popular magazines, books, reviews, or articles that discuss or evaluate someone else's original research.** Be sure to cite all sources – there is a MLA Style Guide on our course page to help you.

Answer the following questions in a word document. You do not need to use proper paragraphs at this stage, but you should have full sentences and your information should be arranged by question. Turn in the document on turnitin. This should be done by the beginning of class or it will be considered late.

1. What current civic issue is important to you? *Explain the issue, referring to at least 3 different sources in your explanation and be sure to cite sources that demonstrate how this is a current issue.*
2. Who are the people and/or organizations involved in the issue?
3. What are your views on the issue?
4. How does a Christian perspective affect this issue?
5. What are other perspectives on this issue that are not commonly heard?
6. Which levels of government would be responsible for addressing this issue?

Part 2: What can you do about it?

Due date: Oct 1

Beyond just knowing about an issue, it is important to think about what you can do about it. Answer the following questions in a word document. You do not need to use proper paragraphs at this stage, but you should have full sentences and your information should be arranged by question. Turn in the document on turnitin. This should be done by the beginning of class or it will be considered late.

1. Create a list of 5 different courses of action that could be used to address your issue
 - For each idea, assess the merits of its effectiveness
 - Rank your ideas from easiest to most difficult to carry out.
2. Which option do you think would have the greatest impact? Why?
3. Which option do you plan to execute? Describe your plan and how you will carry it out.

Part 3: Plan of Engagement

Due date: Oct 12

Part of this assignment is to actually go out and do something that engages with the political system. Answer the following questions in a word document. You do not need to use proper paragraphs at this stage, but you should have full sentences and your information should be arranged in a logical sequence. (The exception is any correspondence you may have had with a politician – those should be formally written and included.) Turn in the document on turnitin. This should be done by the beginning of class or it will be considered late.

1. Provide evidence of your civic participation.
 - a. Include the letter, pictures, transcripts, promotional material, etc.
2. Reflect:
 - a. What was the main goal of your action plan?
 - b. What changes do you anticipate will happen from your actions?
 - c. How can you determine if your plan is making a positive difference?
 - d. What kind of follow-up should you take? (Based on a positive or negative response).

Part 4: Presentation

Due Date: Oct 22 and 23

Create a presentation that is a MAXIMUM of 5 minutes. You will be stopped at 5 minutes and your mark will be reflective of what you have managed to share. Your task is to introduce the class to your issue and tell us what you did about it. Your presentation should have a visual element to it.

Part 5: Write-Up

Due Date: To submit with presentation

The final stage of this summative project is to consolidate your information into a properly written and formatted report. Shape your write-up around the concepts of political thinking – political significance, objectives and results, stability and change, and political perspective. You are basically formatting Parts 1-3 into a formal report. All information researched in the first 3 sections should be included and proper citations should be used. Turn in the document on turnitin. This should be done by the beginning of class or it will be considered late.

To make this easier, your report should have the following headlines/sections:

- Introduction
- Political Significance
- Objectives and Results
- Stability and Change
- Political Perspective
- What I did about it
- Conclusion