**Current Issues in the U.S.**

Directions: Over the next few weeks, you will research and formulate a comprehensive paper on a modern issue in the United States. You will select an issue from the list below and provide a historical background, discussion of its present state in American society, and create an argument regarding how it should be addressed.

List of Topics: You will select from one of the topics below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Illegal Immigration * Minimum Wage * Dependency on Oil * Poor Infrastructure * Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) * Surveillance/Privacy * Gun Rights | * Health & Food * Muslim Refugees * Same-sex marriage * Planned Parenthood * Death Penalty * Confederate Flag * Electoral College * Citizens United | * Support of Israel * Prisoner Torture * Taxes * Homelessness * Poverty and Education * Student Loans * Standardized Testing |

Game Plan

* Topic Selection
  + Students will select a topic that they find valuable, interesting, and/or important. There are many options from the list above, but if the student has another topic in mind that he/she is passionate about, it may be used pending the approval of Mr. Rotondo.
* Preliminary Research/Thesis Question Creation
  + Students will use the online databases to focus on the broad overview of their topic. The purpose of this research is to help students create the thesis questions that drives the completion of the research paper.
* Research/Organizer
  + Students will use various sources to complete the graphic organizer that serves as the guide to the paper. Students will research the history of their issue, the current state of it in society, how different sides (i.e. political parties) view the issue, student opinion, and student recommendation for addressing the issue.
* Rough Draft
  + Students will construct a rough draft and participate in peer editing to improve their papers.
* Final Draft
  + Students will complete a final draft of the paper resulting in approximately 3-5 pages.

Calendar...TBD