20 TIME: WEEKLY Blogging

W O R L D   I S S U E S

Directions: Throughout the course of this semester, you will be developing a project pertaining to a world issue that currently exists. On the following pages, you will find the requirements and the expectations for the project. Please read through ALL expectations prior to starting the project.

Expectations: The purpose of this project is for you to work *independently* on developing a solution to a world issue. You are expected to thoroughly research your topic, learn and understand the dynamics of the issue, and create/develop a possible solution to the problem at hand. This project will require you to think outside the box and develop knowledge about issues that exist not only in your country, but around the world as well.

Tasks: The following tasks will need to be completed by the end of the term. It should be worked on weekly. Each task will be explained in more detail on the following pages.

❑ Defining "world issue" and topic selection (Q1)
❑ Development of blog and creating a theme for the blog (Q1)
❑ 10 full blog posts including research and factual information about the development of the issue (5-Q1, 5-Q2)
❑ 1 podcast explaining the issue in detail - attached to blog (Q1)
❑ 1 video PSA (public service announcement) that is attached to the blog. (Q1)
❑ 1 physical display of the world issue using a form of propaganda (Q1)

❑ Develop a PLAN OF ACTION and solution to the world issue (Q2)
❑ Develop a unique display for the PLAN OF ACTION to present your solution in detail (Q2)
❑ Create a final bound booklet with all aspects of your project displayed (Q2)
❑ Present your final project to a small group in the class (Q2)
❑ Grade and review your classmate's final projects (Q2)

460 POINTS TOTAL

WORLD ISSUES

Step one:
In your own words, explain what a "world issue" is to you.

_____
_____
_____
_____

Step two:
Research what the literal definition of "world issue" is. Then, write the definition on the lined spaces.

_____
_____
_____
_____

Step three:
Visit the United Nations home page for global issues here: http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/global-issues-overview/index.html
Read through the world issues listed. Create a list of 3 that you are interested in.
1.) _____
2.) _____
3.) _____

Step four:
Briefly research each of the three world issues that you listed above. Then, narrow your three down to one. This will be your topic for the remainder of the project.
FINAL TOPIC:

_____

Step five: {narrow your topic}
Currently, your topic is very BROAD and you need to NARROW your topic in order to make it more specific. For example, if you selected "food" as your category, you might want to narrow the topic specifically to "the link between poverty and starvation in Africa".

NARROWED TOPIC:
_____
_____
_____

Step six: Have your teacher approve and initial this assignment sheet.
_____   Score: _____ / 25

WEEBLY BLOG

CHOOSING YOUR BLOG SITE

Before you begin posting, you need to choose a site. There are many to choose from. Below are the instructions if you choose to use Weebly. Other sites you can use are listed below. If you like another, let Ms. Nay know!

- Blog.com
- Blogger.com
- Wordpress.com
- Squarespace.com
- Wix.com
- Weebly.com

SETTING UP YOUR BLOG {DIRECTIONS for WEEBLY}:

1. Go to www.weebly.com
2. Sign up for free by typing your name, email address, and password in the appropriate spaces.
3. Click "Get Started"
4. A page will pop up that says, "What is the focus of your site?" and you will need to click "Blog"
5. Select a theme that is appropriate for your topic (you can change this at a later date if necessary).
6. Once you "choose" a theme, you will need to select the first option that says "Use a Subdomain of Weebly" in order to create your URL. Choose a URL that will be easy to remember and that relates to your topic.
7. In order to create a new blog post, you will select "New Post" in the bottom right hand corner of the blog. Once you click that option, you can title and begin writing your blog entry.
8. Be sure to personalize your blog by adding information about yourself and the purpose of your blog.
9. You'll notice on the left side of the page that you can add a variety of add-ons to your blog posts. I would strongly suggest adding pictures, slideshows, and/or videos to your posts to make them more engaging.

TIP:

When someone views your blog, they should have a general idea right away about the world issue you are discussing. With that being said, create a theme throughout your blog that is cohesive and that matches the theme of your topic!

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Requirement 1 {10 total blog posts - 5 per term}:
- Each of your blog posts should include scholarly research on the topic that you have selected. A wise choice would be selecting 10 topics within the related topic and writing a post on each of them. For example, if my topic was "the link between poverty and starvation in Africa", my first blog post might be about the causes of poverty in Africa.
- Each blog post should be a minimum of 3 detailed paragraphs with research to support each of your statements/claims.
- The blog posts should be both informative AND opinionated. SUGGESTION: Make 2 of your paragraphs research based and the final paragraph opinionated.
- Each blog post should include at least one picture or video to provide imagery for the audience.
- Quarter 1: 100 points → _____/100
- Quarter 2: 100 points → _____/100

Choose 2 of Requirements 3, 4, & 5
Requirement 2 {Podcast - Quarter 1}:
- Your podcast will be embedded in one of your blog posts.
- Think of your podcast as a radio show that will be informing your audience of the world issue you are researching.
- Your podcast should be a minimum of 4 minutes.
- Your podcast should include at least one guest speaker (another student and/or teacher).
- Your podcast should include at least one advertisement/commercial pertaining to the world issue.
- In addition to your podcast, provide a script of what was discussed in the podcast.
- 25 points → _____/25

Requirement 3 {Public Service Announcement - Quarter 1}:
- With your teacher's suggestions, research what a PSA (Public Service Announcement) is.
- Brainstorm a variety of ideas for your own PSA. How can you get a message across to your audience?
- Develop and create a PSA related to your topic that will "hit home" with your audience. You can create this PSA any way you would like. Be creative! EX: YouTube video, newspaper advertisement, comic, drawing, etc.
- With your PSA, provide a 3 paragraph explanation of your choices.
- 25 points → _____/25

Requirement 4 {Propaganda - Quarter 1}:
- Research the 7 types of propaganda (transfer, testimonial, glittering generalities, plain folk, bandwagon, name calling, and card stocking).
- Choose the type of propaganda that would be most appealing to your audience as it relates to your topic.
- Create a physical display of your world issue using this type of propaganda.
- Be creative! If you've already created a video, try something different this time!
- 25 points → _____/25

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Requirement 5 {Plan of Action - Quarter 2}:
- Develop a possible solution for the world issue that you are researching.
- Create a detailed 5-step plan of action that explains the process in which the solution could actually take place.
- For each step, you need to provide research that proves it is realistic and attainable.
- Create a display of your plan of action.
- Again, this is YOUR project, so it is up to you to create and develop a display that is fitting for your topic. Be creative! Think outside the box!
- 20 points → _____/20

Requirement 6 {Final Booklet - Quarter 2}:
- Throughout the course of the project, take pictures of final projects and screen shots of blog posts.
- You will combine all of these samples into a final booklet that will be bound by your teacher.
- Your booklet should clearly display the solution you developed for the world issue you selected.
- Your booklet should be detailed, creative, and clearly display the theme of your issue.
- 100 points → _____/100

Requirement 7 {Group Presentation - Quarter 2}:
- You will present your final booklet.
- Your independent presentation should be a minimum of 5 minutes long.
- You should cover all aspects of your project while maintaining a professional demeanor.
- Eye contact, a clear voice, and grade level appropriate language should be used throughout the entire presentation.
- 20 points → _____/20

Requirement 8 {Grading Your Peers - Quarter 2}:
- You will be grading your peers based on their presentation AND their display of information in their booklet.
- In order to receive the points for this part of the project, you will need to complete a rubric for each of your group members as well as provide verbal feedback.
- You will be able to see the feedback left from your peers as well.
- 20 points → _____/20

Teacher comments:

Quarter 1: _____/150   Quarter 2: _____/260

PEER EVALUATIONS

Your name:

_____

Name of peer:

_____

Topic of peer's project:

_____

How effective was your peer's presentation?

1.   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

How effective was your peer's podcast?

1.   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

How effective was your peer's public service announcement?

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

How effective was your peer's overall blog?

1.   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

What are your overall thoughts on your peer's project?

20-TIME RUBRIC

Name: _____

Total: _____

CATEGORY				
Blog Posts (10 total)	ALL of the student\'s blog posts are include and exceed all requirements listed. The blog posts are properly cited, well researched, and appropriate length. It is apparent that the student went above and beyond what was expected.	ALL of the student\'s blog posts are include most requirements listed. The blog posts are properly cited, well researched, and appropriate length. It is apparent that the student understood the requirements.	MOST of the student\'s blog posts are include most requirements listed. The blog posts are properly cited, well researched, and appropriate length. It is apparent that the student struggled with understanding the requirements.	SOME or NONE of the student\'s blog posts are include the requirements listed. The blog posts are rarely properly cited, well researched, and appropriate length. It is apparent that the student did not understand the requirements.
Podcast	The student\'s podcast meets and exceeds the expectations listed on the project requirements. The podcast is the proper length & incorporates all of the necessary components.	The student\'s podcast meets the expectations listed on the project requirements. The podcast is the proper length & incorporates all of the necessary components.	Only parts of the student\'s podcast meet the expectations listed on the project requirements. The podcast may or may not be proper length or incorporate all of the necessary components.	Few parts of the student\'s podcast meet the expectations listed on the project requirements. The podcast may not be proper length or incorporate all of the necessary components.
Public Service Announcement	The student\'s PSA meets and exceeds the expectations listed on the project requirements. The PSA effectively captures the audience and does an excellent job of conveying a message.	The student\'s PSA meets the expectations listed on the project requirements. The PSA effectively captures the audience and does a good job of conveying a message.	Parts of the student\'s PSA meet the expectations listed on the project requirements. The PSA effectively captures the audience, but does not fully convey a message.	The student\'s PSA does not meet the expectations listed on the project requirements. The PSA does not effectively captures the audience or fully convey a message.
Propaganda	The student\'s physical display of propaganda meets and exceeds the expectations listed.	The student\'s physical display of propaganda meets the expectations listed.	The student\'s physical display of propaganda meets some of the expectations listed.	The student\'s physical display of propaganda does not meet the expectations listed.
Plan of Action	The student\'s plan of action is well thought out and fully developed. It is evident that he/she went above and beyond what was expected to develop a unique and realistic plan of action.	The student\'s plan of action is well thought out and fully developed. It is evident that he/she went understood what was expected to develop a unique and realistic plan of action.	The student\'s plan of action is mostly well thought out and fully developed. It is evident that he/she went understood most of what was expected to develop a unique and realistic plan of action.	The student\'s plan of action is not well thought out or fully developed. It is evident that he/she misunderstood what was expected to develop a unique and realistic plan of action.
Final Booklet	The student\'s final booklet is fully detailed and displays ALL of the components listed from the project.	The student\'s final booklet is mostly detailed and displays ALL of the components listed from the project.	The student\'s final booklet is mostly detailed and displays MOST of the components listed from the project.	The student\'s final booklet is not detailed and does not display the components listed from the project.
Group Presentation	The student was able to fully explain his/her project in immense detail with proper presentation skills. It is evident that this student practiced and prepared for the presentation.	The student was able to fully explain his/her project in detail with proper presentation skills. It is evident that this student practiced and prepared for the presentation.	The student was mostly able to explain his/her project in detail with some proper presentation skills. It is not evident that this student practiced and prepared for the presentation.	The student was not able to fully explain his/her project in immense detail with proper presentation skills. It is evident that this student did not practice or prep for the presentation.
Peer Evaluation	The student completed all of the necessary components of the peer evaluation.	The student completed most of the necessary components of the peer evaluation.	The student completed some of the necessary components of the peer evaluation.	The student did not complete any of the necessary components of the peer evaluation.