

Civics Summer Project

All students who plan on taking the Honors Civics course for the 2011-2012 school year are required to complete the Honor's Civics Summer Project. Students that are taking the course in the spring of 2012 should still complete the project and turn it in the first week of school in the fall of 2011. The assignment is worth a major test grade.

Assignment

- Your task this summer is to choose a recurring topic in our country today that involves the US Government. Some examples of student choices from last summer include the oil spill, the War against Terror, and the 2010 elections. Whatever you choose, make sure it directly involves the US Government.
- Your assignment is to follow the topic in newspapers, magazines, online resources, or other periodicals (make sure they are quality resources...no tabloids please) over an 8 week period.
- Each week you will select 2 articles on your topic and write a summary of each. The summary should include highlighted information from the article along with a student opinion on the topic and how it is progressing over the weeks. At the top of each summary the student should cite the information from the article using MLA format (see example below).
- A copy of the article must be printed, copied, or clipped and placed in a folder. The article summary should be placed in the folder along with the article.
- If hand written each summary should be at least 1 page long but no longer than 2 pages.
- If typed each summary should be double spaced using 12 point times new roman font and the margins should be set at 1 inch each. Each typed summary should be at least 1 page, but no longer than 2 pages.
- Students' articles will be graded as follows: length, subject matter, relevance, source requirements, order, and neatness. Summaries will be graded as follows: citation, length, relevance, subject matter, order, and neatness.

- **You will need to cite the following information at the top of each article summary:**
 - Author of Article – last, first
 - Title of the Article - "In quotations"
 - Title of Publication – Underlined
 - City Published – [In brackets]
 - Date of Publication – Day Month Year:
 - PAGE #'s
 - Medium of Publication (web site, print, etc.)

- **It should look something like this:**

Author of Article. "Name of article." Name of Newspaper [City Published] Date Published: Pages. Print.

Sample: Regen, Phil. "The Reign of the Tiger." The Daily Herald [Chicago] 5 May 2004: 12+. Print.