

Writing Project Three: Collaborative Advocacy Project

In this project, you will work in teams to create a successful proposal argument. Collaboration is an extremely important aspect of advocacy and public argument, and this project gives you an opportunity to develop and polish those skills while also working on a few different genres of argument at once.

Assignment tasks:

- (1) Draft a team “contract.” Working together, set the ground rules for your team. Where, when, and how will you meet? Who will do what, by what deadline? (You’ll need to take a skills inventory of each member of your group—what are the skills of each member? What are each member’s strengths and liabilities?) How will your team hold each member accountable? Draft a document that gets all of this nuts and bolts stuff down. At the end, I’ll ask you to revisit it and see how it worked out.
- (2) Choose the forum for your presentation. This talk needs to be given somewhere. Have a team member or two investigate where and when this may take place. (You’ll also give the presentation to the class.) The more “real world,” the more effective your presentation will be. You can choose a venue at ASU, in the community, or video record the talk and upload to a place where it may be viewed by its intended audience (you’ll need to indicate what this audience is and why it is a good option). Schedule and deliver the presentation, then list its date, time, and location on your uploaded assignment.

Components of the project:

- White paper: A five page paper in MLA or APA format with Works Cited that discusses the issue in controversy, its stakeholders, your advocacy proposal with supporting argument (claims and evidence).
- Multimedia presentation: a Prezi or Powerpoint or similar that captures the advocacy proposal you are making in a 15-minute slideshow. Visual argument will be very important here.
- A corresponding oral argument: should distill the contents of your white paper into a presentation/argument to go alongside your multimedia presentation, with your entire group taking a role of some kind.

Evaluative Criteria:

Grades for each team will be determined as follows: white paper: 30%; multimedia portion: 30%; oral argument/presentation in class: 40%. The entire team will receive the same grade unless there are extenuating circumstances that arise from the team reviews.

- Successful white papers will adhere to the criteria for WP1. Refer to that assignment sheet for guidelines. Carefully researched proposals will yield a timely, specific, and plausible call to action.
- Multimedia presentations should be well developed and designed, employing successful rhetorical and design strategies from the textbook and from class discussions.
- Oral argument and presentation should be engaging, with a tone appropriate for its intended audience and effective translation of the proposal argument in your white paper to a live audience (who has not read that white paper).

In-class Presentations will be held: Tuesday, December 4

Final Drafts of White Papers are due: Friday, December 12, at 11:59 p.m.