

A.C.T! – FOR OBAMA

Fall 2012

The first amendment is a cornerstone of participatory government. A free press, devoted to a search for truth can keep a political process honest. Americans have a duty, that if they intend to vote for president, they need to tap into that free press and they need to know the ISSUES! Unfortunately many Americans just don't have a clue. Your A.C.T! group has chosen to work with the Obama campaign - so you need to know his issues and Romney's. Your A.C.T! requirements will be drawn from the class assignment. They will however be unique for your situation.

TEN ISSUES for 2012

Your group must cover ten issues in this campaign...five completed by Friday October 19 and five completed by Monday November 5. The issues (two per student) need to use the format noted below. Each article counts 20% of the group grade - for MP#1 and MP#2. MP#3 grade (4 hours volunteering at the Obama Campaign HQ) must be logged before polls close on Tuesday November 6. That will make the remainder of your MP #3 grade to consist of one letter per person as noted in the A.C.T! syllabus under MP #2. We won't worry about the letters until MP#3. You've got plenty to do until then...

#1 - CHOOSE ISSUES

The Washington Post has a basic overview of the major issues of the 2012 Presidential Campaign. I suggest we all sit down - go through them and have a draft. You each walk away with two issues that you must learn. Again, your first is due typed and complete by Friday October 19. Number two is due on Monday November 5. You do NOT have to use *the Washington Post* as a source for outlining the issues, however its a good one. Issues should be selected by Friday October 12.

#2 - CONSISTENT FORMAT for ALL ISSUES

Like in regular A.C.T! assignments - all posts must be made 12 point font, one inch margins and single spaced. You need to access at least two sources to define and explain the issues. Make sure to copy the article (s) that you use and to turn place them in your notebook along with the evaluation that you do. This process will be due for five issues at the end of MP#1 and for five issues the day prior to election.

#3 - THE ISSUE, OBAMA, ROMNEY, and ME!

Finalize your format and make sure that everybody sticks to the same one.

#4 - QUOTE

Since your group is Students for Obama - I want you to choose a single quote that summarizes President Obama's position on your particular issue. In one to two paragraphs tell me why this quote is reflective of his philosophy.

#5 - THE CANDIDATES

After identifying the issue that you intend to cover, and as a group you have settled on a format, identifying your quote and its explanation, choose one of the candidates and explain in detail and in your own words (four to five paragraphs) what his position is in regards to the issue. Next take the opposing candidate and do the same (four to five paragraphs) in regards to his position.

#6 - YOUR THOUGHTS

The final evaluation is your own...Choose either Romney or Obama and in three to four paragraphs tell me who you agree with and why you agree with him. This will be the most significant part of your evaluation and needs to be relevant to the issue that you are investigating.

This will conclude your requirements for your specific issues.

DUE DATES AND REQUIREMENTS:

MP#1 (due Friday October 19) - Five Issues researched and evaluated in above format. Turned in together in A.C.T! group notebook.

MP #2 (due by Monday November 5) - Four hours of volunteer service at the Obama for President Election HQ's and Five more issues researched and evaluated in above format.

MP#3 (due by Friday prior to the last week of the MP) - Five letters to political representatives or newspapers following the election. If President Obama wins these letters should go to him. If he loses we will re-evaluate where the letters go.

FINAL THOUGHTS

You guys have made a commitment to take on this version of A.C.T! In the end the workload is not any greater than other students. However, it is front end loaded - there's A LOT to do before Election day. You have your issues to do. You have your volunteer work to do. So you can't sit around and wait. You need to get cracking NOW. Stay tuned for extra credit for added volunteer hours over four hours. Finally, I admire you all for taking on this challenge. I think it can be extremely rewarding - I'll see you down at the campaign HQ.

Take a look at some pretty good sources below:

New York Times - <http://www.nytimes.com/>

Washington Post - <http://www.washingtonpost.com/>

Los Angeles Times - <http://www.latimes.com/>

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

National Public Radio (NPR) - <http://www.npr.org/>

Wall Street Journal - <http://online.wsj.com/home-page>

Economist - <http://www.economist.com/>

The World - <http://www.theworld.org/>