

Team Presentation: What Starts Here Changes the World

Overall Instructions: Congratulations! Believing your team to have *unique knowledge* of the university and student body, the President of UT Austin has selected your team taskforce to help enhance the university. The President is asking your team to select *one campus policy that you would create or modify*. Your goal is to work with your team to come up with *a creative idea* to modify an existing policy or create a new policy. You will present the idea to the president and a committee of university leaders from the President's Office and Student Affairs (simulated by your peers in class). For the presentation, your goals are to collectively *explain your chosen policy shift* and *convince the president and committee that your policy change is necessary and beneficial*. Your audience for the presentation will be *both* the president and committee (simulated by your peers) and the current and future students, staff, and professors at UT. Part of your presentation involves demonstrating how the policy is economically, pragmatically feasible.

Examples of potential policy changes include: provide extra credit for service in the community garden, reserve space for a large communal quad, alter the recycling policy, create a task force to address campus sexual assault, set space aside for more diverse statues, utilize money from athletics to pay for a certain service, etc.

Preparation: I expect your team to hold meetings inside and outside of class, and I encourage you to begin meeting as soon as possible. Your team should conduct research (this can be academic sources, online websites, surveys you conduct at UT, etc.). You must verbally cite **two sources** within the presentation and include the sources on your visual aid and a properly formatted reference sheet (in APA and MLA). Your team should prepare **a professional visual aid** for the presentation (Powerpoint, Prezi, handouts, etc.).

Grading: The Team Presentation accounts for **30 points** of your final grade, and team members will be given the same grade. You will be judged on how well you work as a team and how well you adapt to your audiences. A full rubric is available on **page 47** of your textbook. I encourage you to use the AUDIENCE acronym for both audiences found on **page 139** of your textbook.

Structure: The presentation should be between 18 and 22 minutes total, including a 2-3 minute question-and-answer period. Therefore, your team should aim to present for approximately 19 minutes in order to leave time for questions.

The presentation should include the following elements:

1. Introduction (with an attention-getter, introduction of team members, thesis, reason you are here, and the agenda for the meeting)
2. Body
 - a. Explanation of need for policy change
 - b. Overview of the policy change
 - c. Discussion of team ideas that did not work
 - d. Outline of criteria for what an effective policy looks like
 - e. Discussion of potential issues arising from the policy and how your team has addressed them
3. Conclusion (review of agenda, restatement of thesis, and sense of closure)

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4. Q&A Period (facilitate 2-3 minutes of questions from the audience; think ahead of potential questions you could be asked)
5. Other elements: must have **a visual aid** and at least **two verbal citations of sources**

I leave it to your team to decide how to arrange the elements in the body of the presentation.

What to Turn in on Presentation Day: The following should be in a folder, handed to me before your team begins presenting:

1. Instructor's Evaluation for the team presentation (one per team; **pg. 47**)
2. Presentation notes (notecards, place these in the folder following your presentation)
3. Printouts of visual aids (i.e. Ppt slides)
4. A reference list containing at least **two sources** used *in* your presentation (in APA format).

Team Self-Evaluation: You will submit a 3 page double-spaced essay reflecting on your group's performance before, during, and after the presentation. This essay will be due **one week** from your presentation day. Further guidelines can be found on **page 49**.

A Final Note: The policy your team creates/modifies has to fit within current existing US laws. In other words, you cannot simply reverse the underage drinking law or non-smoking law on campus. Be creative!!