

## Persuasive Speech Assignment

The goal of this speech is to persuade your audience about a question of policy. Your specific purpose should be in the form: to persuade my audience that X should do Y.

- You must have your topic approved by me. You are not allowed to change your topic after this date unless you consult with me and I approve a change. You are allowed to refine or slightly modify your specific purpose statement within the same general topic up until the date you turn in your first preparation outline.
- Your speech **must be 5 to 6 minutes long**. If you are more than 30 seconds short or long, there will be a significant grade penalty. Practice and time your speech to ensure that you are within time limits. I recommend that you mark on your notes where you should be at certain times so you can adjust your delivery if you are not on pace to finish within the time limits.
- You may use visual aids, but they are not required. Many persuasive speeches benefit from visual aids, so I strongly recommend that you consider using visual aids to make your speech clearer or more persuasive.
- **You must use at least three sources.** You can use more sources if you like. **At least one of your sources must be a book, magazine or journal.**
- **You must also submit your Speech Outline by <sup>March 31<sup>st</sup></sup> ~~April 3<sup>rd</sup>~~.** If you don't turn in your preparation outline on time, you will be penalized 10 points off the speech grade.
- Your speech must have a title.
- You may use notes during your speech, but you need to rehearse it so that you can maintain good eye contact.

- You must attach a Works Cited page of your sources in MLA format to your prep outlines. It is important to get this format exactly correct--otherwise, people will have trouble locating any sources you cite. Double-check your Works Cited page before you turn it in.
- On the day you speak, you will turn in your works cited and your visual aids.