**Take a Stand**

**Step One: Think/Wonder and Explore**

Curious people are constantly wondering about new topics. Explore your community, the internet, your mind. Read, view, and listen for information about subjects you want to learn more about. Use the resources that surround you and decide which topic you want to take on.

**Due:**

* Brainstorm or Idea chart

**Step Two: Plan**

Take some time to plan your next steps.

What are your **goals** for learning?

Where and how are you going to find **information**?

What are you going to **create**?

**Due*:***

* Three minute persuasive presentation (See attached)

**Step Three: Find reliable sources of information**

In this age of information, it is essential to evaluate the source of information. You must ask yourself if the source is credible. Remember that information is distributed for many purposes (persuade, argue, inform, express, evaluate, etc.) and biased or inaccurate information is not always easy to identify.

**Step Four: Connect**

How does the information you’ve found satisfy your curiosity and answer your question? Read, skim, watch, listen, talk, analyze, see patterns, compare record information **in your own words** and evaluate again. Take notes. Keep records! The records you keep will make up your learning folder (see attached description).

**Due:**

* Four annotated bibliographies (two must be from JSTOR)
* Work Cited (MLA)

**Step Five: Create Product**   
 Use the information gathered to create presentation.

**Step Six: Evaluate**

Judge your project. What went well and what needs further attention?

**Writing Purpose: Argue and persuade**

This assignment is the culminating aspect of the research assignment. More so than just “showing what you learned,” this aspect of the assignment asks you to **synthesize** all the information you found and **propose where we should go from here**. You offer solutions, not a general overview of the topic-you’ve done that already. Here you need to take it to the next step. Oftentimes this assignment is written like an editorial. The bulk of your work is proposing change.

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| For this assignment, it will read like a checklist. Tell your audience what needs to change and how it can happen.  Your research will provide the **ethos** and **logos** behind your point.  See the back page for a sample. | **ETHOS**: a sense of credibility. Why should you believe the writer? A strong sense of ethos in writing allows you to believe the writer because he/she is credible.  **LOGOS:** Logic. How does the writer make logical sense of the issue at hand?  **PATHOS:** Emotional appeal. Appeal to the audience’s emotions to motivate change. |

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| **Structure**  - Logical order  - Brief, focused notes  - Content is very specific  - Use short and clear sentences  - Citations are absolutely necessary | **Writing features**  - Convey essential information  - Factual, precise and persuasive  - Clear, concise language  - Give a balanced view with *evidence* for any points made  - Consider how to develop a sense of ethos in your writing |

**Task**: Construct a **three minute** presentation that “takes a stand” and “proposes a solution” to a problem you’ve encountered in your learning research or readings from AOW’s.

* Visual presentation
* Outline/Notes on separate sheet
* Four sources (two from JSTOR), MLA formatted work cited slide
* Save presentation online
* Due: Feb 19th

Focus your presentation on something specific. Possible subtopics for Take a Stand: