Social Justice Poster Session (50 points)

English 057
HACC, Spring 2018
Professor Thaker
hlthaker@hacc.edu
Office Hours: M 12:30-2:00, W 12:30-1:30; TR 12:30-1:30,
R 5:30-6:00, and by appointment

The National Association of Social Workers defines social justice as “the view that everyone deserves equal economic, political and social rights and opportunities.” To study social justice is to learn about the problems that dramatically impact quality of life for certain populations, and how people have worked to solve those problems (Gonzalez).

In recent months, we’ve seen the rise of two major movements of social change: the #metoo movement against sexual harassment, and the #neveragain movement created by student survivors of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida. Young people have energized around these and other movements, urging for change. In this unit, you’ll research and share information regarding contemporary social justice issues.

Poster sessions are popular methods of sharing work, and are used in every field. That’s because they allow you to reach a large number of people more informally than a presentation, while still allowing you to share your research. The goal is to enter into a conversation with your audience, not just speak at them.

For this assignment, you will be creating a poster for our English 057 Poster Session, held on Thursday, May 3rd, from 10:30-12:30. Note: absence on this day will result in a zero for this assignment, unless there is a proven, documented emergency, in which case you will have to present your poster at a different time.

Topic

While this is by no means a comprehensive list, these are some of the more current social justice issues. Pick one of the following:

1. DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) Immigration Policy and its participants, called “Dreamers”
2. Implicit Bias
3. Gender Pay Gap (also known as Gender Wage Gap)
4. School-to-Prison Pipeline
5. Homophobia and Heterosexism
6. Ableism
7. Sexual Harassment

Research

Include at least three sources. These must include at least two library book/databases sources.
Format
On either a poster board or a foam board:
• Attach either printed PowerPoint slides or document pages, but avoid overly-large chunks of text (you may only handwrite titles or subheadings)
• Prominently display the title
• Include bullet lists, graphics, phrases, drawings, or photographs
• Include in-text citations where necessary and a Works Cited page (you will receive a zero for this assignment if either are missing)

Required Sections
To achieve points for completion, you must include the following sections:
1. **Title**
2. **The Issue** (at least two paragraphs or a bullet list): What is the issue? Who does it affect? How long has it been going on? Explain as thoroughly as possible.
3. **Relevant Laws and Policies** (bullet list): Are there currently laws that are relevant to this issue? Any proposed laws still being debated or decided?
4. **In the News**: Go to news.google.com or search a library database for a current news story (*within the last month*) related to this issue. Summarize the article in one paragraph, including the title, author, source (What newspaper is it from?), and include a picture if one is available.
5. **Differing Opinions** (bullet list): Are there differing views on this issue? Are some for and some against addressing this issue? What are the various sides arguing?
6. At least 2 images (graphs/charts/diagrams/maps/pictures) that support your findings (you can make these or find them through research)
7. **Works Cited** with at least three sources (at least two library book/databases sources). Note: failure to include either a Works Cited or in-text citations will result in an automatic 0/50 for this assignment.

Presenter
You must be prepared to discuss your research with the other students. Though you do not need to prepare a speech, some notes may be helpful for these mini-presentations.

Audience Member
You will be expected to visit the other presenters’ posters, listen to their presentations, and ask questions.

Grading
You will be graded on the following:
• Research and presentation quality
• Poster design
• Presentation