



CIVIC PROBLEM INVESTIGATION

Student Learning Outcome:

- identify and describe major global issues by illustrating the venues in which particular Greek and Roman icons have been appropriated to shape the American Self.
- compare and contrast how global issues and systems are experienced at different scales by juxtaposing Greek, Roman, and American perspectives on the same cultural issue.

Prompt One:

Imagine that you are the chief advisor to the governor of your state (insert any U.S. state here). Your governor has received a petition to abolish the Classical image and/or the Latin motto from your state flag. The petition presents two arguments against the Classical symbols of your flag:

- because outdated, these references are no longer understood by the residents of your state.
- because of their European origin, these references are no longer suitable emblems for the ethnically diverse residents of your state.

Instructions and Format:

Your assignment is to investigate the history and iconography of your state flag, and to report to the governor the pros and cons of eliminating its current insignia. If you propose the abolition of the current insignia, you will have to present an alternative icon and motto and explain why these symbols might better appeal to the residents of your state. You must present your case in a ten-minute PowerPoint presentation. At the end of your presentation, your fellow students (representing the governor's council) will vote yay or nay for the abolition of the current symbols.

Prompt Two:

Imagine that you are the chief advisor to the mayor of your town. Your mayor has received a petition to close the "Barrington Hall Plantation," the only example of Neo-classical antebellum architecture in your region. The petition argues for the closing of the monument on two grounds:

- The upkeep of the plantation does not bring public revenue; ticket sales only break even the budget required for its maintenance.
- The Classically-inspired manor is a reminder of slavery and therefore it must be concealed rather than showcased as a tourist attraction.

Instructions and Format:

Your assignment is to investigate the history and Classicizing architecture of the Barrington Plantation, and to report to the mayor the pros and cons of closing it down. If you support its upkeep, you must also present a plan for increasing revenue (e.g. through better advertisement in local tourism publications, renting the plantation out to local events, etc.) You must use a ten-minute PowerPoint presentation. At the end of your presentation, your fellow students (representing the mayor's council) will vote yay or nay for the closing of this monument.

Course: CLT 3521 American Greece, American Rome

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