

Lesson Plan- You've Got Issues: Today's Political Debates

Objective:

- Students will form teams to research an issue of importance and argue the issue from either the Liberal/Democratic point of view or the conservative/Republican point of view.
- The issues will be debated in class.

Standards:

- ODE American Government Standards
 - Federal, state and local governments address problems and issues by making decisions, creating laws, enforcing regulations and taking action.
 - Democratic government is enhanced when individuals exercise the skills to effectively participate in civic affairs.

Materials

- Web access for research purposes
- Assignment Directions and Research Guide

Timeline

Day One: Teams formed and issues assigned. Research is conducted.

Day Two and Three: Teams prepare debate statements and rebuttals.

Day Four and Five: Debates in Class

Evaluation:

Team members will be graded the same, unless it is evident that certain members deserve more or less points based on the level of work observed. The winning side of the debate (as determined by class consensus) will have additional points added to their score.