

LESSON GOAL

Explore the meaning of civic responsibility, reflect on what needs to be changed, and brainstorm practical ways to practice civic responsibility.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What is civic responsibility?
How can I be civically responsible?

INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY

FORUM

- Use Forum to contribute to list of questions.

BLOGGER

- Use Blogger to keep a journal of your Action Plan progress.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Check Announcements for any information about assignments and due dates.

MY PORTFOLIO

- Submit work to My Portfolio.

MY WORKSPACE

- Prepare your assignments in My Workspace.

LESSONS

- Review the lesson.
- Complete assignment.
- Submit assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Use Assignments to submit your artifacts and reflections.

GRADEBOOK

- Check Gradebook for your lesson evaluation.

SCHEDULE

- Check schedule for assignments and due dates.

2 class periods; Action Project may take a few weeks to an entire school year, depending on the projects and time available.

LESSON OVERVIEW

Every day you see situations that need to be changed, whether when watching the local news, walking through your neighborhood, or heading to class. Sometimes you may feel as if you can't do anything about it – as if you don't have the power to make any change in that situation. This lesson is designed to help you think through what those situations are and what your responsibility is in them. It is true that some things are out of your hands, but there are ways that you can make a difference in the world around you. This lesson will help you do that.

This lesson is the first of a series of three lessons on Civic Responsibility.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Explore meaning of civic responsibility as a class.
2. Reflect on what needs to be changed and brainstorm ways to respond.
3. Learn about what other high school students have done to practice civic responsibility.
4. Develop a list of potential ideas for an action project in a small group.

There are two assignments in this lesson that require you to have participated in the lesson activities.

How you can succeed in this lesson

1. Engage in classroom discussions on civic responsibility fully by offering thoughtful responses.
2. Complete thoughtful reflection on change offering concrete examples of needed change.
3. Engage in small group brainstorm fully by offering insightful questions and listening well to others in the group.
4. Post 7-10 creative and realistic ideas for action project on forum (7-10 per small group).
5. Complete thoughtful reflection on overcoming obstacles to action.



ASSIGNMENT 1

In class you have discussed what civic responsibility is. Reflect on the quotation by Mahatma Gandhi, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.” It is often easier to complain about what needs to be changed in the world rather than do something about it. Many times we don’t know what we can do to help, so we shrug our shoulders and go on with life. We often feel powerless and unable to help. In this reflection, think about all the different problems you face on a daily basis. Then brainstorm some ideas about ways you may be able to help, even if the help seems minimal. It’s a start.

Submit the **Reflection on Change** using the Assignments Tool on *Sakai*.



ASSIGNMENT 2

In class you have explored the definition of civic responsibility and you have brainstormed and discussed ideas for action projects. People come up with all kinds of reasons not to take action and you will encounter all kinds of obstacles.

Write a reflection in response to this prompt.

Make a list of all the reasons you can think of *not to do* a civic action project. Then make a list of all the reasons *to do* a civic action project. Reflect on how you can and why you should overcome objections and identify obstacles to taking civic action.

Use the *Sakai* Assignments Tool to submit your reflection for evaluation.

Multiply the points by the weighted score and record in the total column for each rubric. Then tally the total points for the final score.

Weighted Score	Category	Exceeding 9-10 Points	Meeting 6-8 Points	Approaching 3-5 Points	Emerging 0-2 Points	Total
3	ASSIGNMENT 1 Reflection on Change Complete thoughtful and thorough reflection on what needs to be changed.	Completed thoughtful reflection on change, offering concrete examples of needed change.	Completed reflection on change and offers some ideas for situations that need changing.	Made an attempt to complete reflection on change; little detail provided.	Did not complete reflection on change.	
3	ASSIGNMENT 2 Reflection on Action Reflect on overcoming obstacles to taking action.	Completed thoughtful reflection on overcoming obstacles to action.	Completed reflection on overcoming obstacles to action.	Made an attempt to complete reflection on overcoming obstacles to action.	Did not complete reflection on overcoming obstacles to action.	