

Viewpoint

Session 1: Tuesday 9:00-10:30

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Description: This course will look at a few historical moments and current events that have been met with controversy and a broad range of viewpoints. Through discussion and research students will determine their own viewpoint on the event after carefully weighing all sides.

Materials: Pen or pencil, notebook and an open mind!

Expectations: Participation! The class is what you make it. This will not be a debate class as much as it is a discussion class, and an opportunity to share informed perspectives with maturity and a willingness to hear others. A range of opinions is expected and welcomed! Be open to new ideas and respect your classmates who may disagree with you. Homework is assigned every other week. Each student will have a different persona with a different viewpoint to take on, even if it is one that they don't agree with (more fun!).

Week 1: Viewpoints and Media Literacy

Introduction to the course! Why is it so important to look at things from other people's perspectives? We will discuss what viewpoints, biases and prejudices are and reflect on our own. We will also discuss how politics and media sway public opinion through propaganda and biases.

Week 2: Space Race: Part I

History lesson and discussion: Who was involved? What went down? Where and when did it take place? Why did it matter?

Week 3: Space Race: Part II

In class, students will share what they found and we will discuss the lasting effects of this event.

Week 4: Climate Change: Part I

Scientific exploration: What is climate and in what ways is it changing? Why is this such a debated topic?

Week 5: Climate Change: Part II

In class, students will share their viewpoints and we will explore what the present and future looks like.

Week 6: Artificial Intelligence: Part I (similar format as previous topic)

Week 7: Artificial Intelligence: Part II (similar format as previous topic)