





## *A project-based civic engagement model*

always best to have bullet points as opposed to sentences so the presentation will be more conversational, and students can maintain eye contact with the judges. Students are encouraged to use graphics from the display to help explain or emphasize a point. Students may only use materials included in the display during the presentation. Groups should practice their oral presentations to conform to the time requirements for each panel.

The evaluators will begin the mock legislative oral hearings by introducing themselves to the students and asking the students from the portfolio panel groups to come forward and introduce themselves. There is flexibility with this model so if students have practiced a different way to present introductions, they may present in a manner they are most comfortable.

The groups should present in consecutive order by panel.

Each panel is allowed four minutes to present (four minutes per panel, NOT four minutes per student) for a total presentation time of 16 minutes for the full presentation by all students. Following the presentation of all four panels, the judges will ask follow-up questions for ten minutes. This is an opportunity for students to clarify, expand, and defend the positions stated in their opening presentations. Students MAY NOT USE notes during the follow-up period, although they may refer to the portfolio display. The entire class will stand with their portfolio during the follow-up period.

At the conclusion of the mock legislative oral hearings, evaluators will give the class some concise feedback about their presentations for up to five minutes. An official timekeeper will keep track of the time during the mock legislative oral hearings. The time limits for the mock legislative oral hearings are as follows.

Portfolio Group One: Four (4) minutes

Portfolio Group Two: Four (4) minutes

Portfolio Group Three: Four (4) minutes

Portfolio Group Four: Four (4) minutes

Follow-up Questions: Ten (10) minutes

Feedback and Critique: Up to five (5) minutes



Using these time limits, each oral hearing presentation and follow-up questioning period should take approximately twenty-six minutes (26) to complete. The total time for each class will be up to thirty-one (31) minutes including feedback. A sample oral hearing score sheet is attached. This provides a good framework for what should be covered in the mock legislative hearing presentation. For additional details, contact Annette Boyd Pitts at [apitts@flsouthern.edu](mailto:apitts@flsouthern.edu).



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Students will develop and present an action plan to get the policy adopted by the appropriate governmental body or agency. They will identify people or groups that may support or oppose the policy and examine how they may garner additional support. The action plan should include the steps needed to have the policy enacted and implemented by the government.

Portfolios may be submitted in one of two specific formats. Traditional portfolios should have four panels addressing each of the previously identified components. The class should select a clever title for their presentation as the heading for the portfolio. The presentation portfolio will be similar to a history fair portfolio. The size requirements are as follows. Each panel should be no larger than 32 inches by 40 inches. Foam core panels are light and easy to work with and decorate. The four panels must fold flat. See visuals provided. No three-dimensional items are permitted on the boards. Panels can be hinged with Velcro strips. Use the Portfolio Criteria Checklist to ensure your portfolio includes all required information. Don't forget to use the Portfolio Checklist to ensure your portfolio includes all required information. Don't forget to use the Portfolio Checklist to ensure your portfolio includes all required information.

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Civics and Government Standard 2: Evaluate the roles, rights, and responsibilities of United States citizens, and determine methods of active participation in society, government, and the political system.

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