**Public Problems and Racial Impacts: The Informative Speech Assignment**

**The Assignment**

We create and develop presentations for an audience. For this informative presentation, you should assume that the audience are community members who would benefit from knowing factual and experiential information about a public problem or issue.

The team you will be on will depend on the public problem or issue you want to explore. You and your team members will explore a public problem or issue and investigate various facets of it. You will need to think critically about how this public problem or issue intersects with race and justice. In your presentation, you and your team members will answer these three questions:

1. What is the public problem or issue?
2. How does the public problem or issue intersect with race and justice?
3. Why is the public problem or issue so difficult to address?

You will need to offer facts, figures, and insight from people whose perspectives offer a compelling view of the issue. The goal for the informative presentation is to provide the audience with information that will help them develop an understanding of the public problem or issue and its complexity. In the second (persuasive) presentation, you will provide the audience with possible solutions that will help them address the public problem or issue in ways that are racially just.

**Research Requirements**

You and your team members will need to do significant research into the public issue or problem so that you can explain who is affected, how widespread it is, and what are the causes. You and your team members will need to conduct research that focuses on statistical information because that information will give the audience that perspective. You should read widely about the problem in contemporary and credible news sources, and find ways to understand and gain insight into how the problem is experienced.

A minimum of two sources per group member is required for this presentation. Sources should range from the academic (peer-reviewed) to the contemporary (news sources, published research reports, and interviews).

**Presentation Guidelines**

Your group presentation should:

1. Introduce the issue.
2. Explore the three dimensions of the issue in depth (What is the issue? How does the issue intersect with issues of race and justice? Why is the issue so difficult to address?).
3. Explain to the audience how this issue affects people of color differently.
4. Describe the impacts of the issue on the community or society (public problems persist because they are complex and defy simple solutions).
5. Involve all group members.
6. Be 13-16 minutes long.

Record your informative presentation synchronously on Zoom or WebEx. Your peers will watch, evaluate, and comment on your presentation.

**Evaluation**

1. Using a rubric, the informative presentation will be evaluated based on how well it adheres to the concepts of informative speaking.
2. You and your team members will receive peer feedback from the audience.
3. Each team member will evaluate the team’s performance.
4. Team members will evaluate their individual performances.