

Bonvo Proposal – Fall 2021

Common Commitment Theme: International Perspective

- Bonvo I: Western Perspectives on Religious Issues
 - Big Ideas: Ethnocentrism, bias, propaganda, media, religion as a faith v. institution
 - Introduction: Overview of Trump Administration’s decision to move US Embassy to Jerusalem
 - Address western perspectives on religious (political), analyzing Israel as a US ally, comparing religious views
 - Activity: Propaganda in the Media
 - News headlines/photos
 - Comparison of liberal, conservative, and centrist outlets – are they all that different in their coverage on the Israel vs. Palestine issue?
 - Focus on the media’s focus on “violent Palestinians”
 - Cuba (bonus material!) - US attempt to intervene in society/politics
 - Reflection: Sample Questions
 - Why are some of the messages prevalent in popular news networks propagated? Why are they easily accessible?
 - What are some historical reasons why the United States and other western nations support Israel?
 - Is there a significant difference in headlines among the selected sources?
 - What are some reasons the US and other western European nations are interested in Cuban politics/affairs?
 - Wrap Up
 - Create a news headline concerning the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that is completely neutral. Is this possible?
- Bonvo II: Emotional Bonvo focusing on content from Bonvo I; videos showing human rights abuses by both sides of the conflict
- Bonvo III: Exploring Problems Facing Internally Displaced Persons
 - Introduction – Overview of Rules/Terms
 - Overview of content to be debated
 - Questions: What is a nation? What is a state? What is statelessness? Can a nation exist without a state?
 - Activity – Model UN Simulation
 - Students will role play as teams representing countries
 - Purpose of the simulation is to show how world leaders, including Israel, can make decisions in the UN while excluding Palestine
 - Discuss and see the implications of observer state vs. member state
 - Chrissy/Montanna act as Committee Chair and/or Secretary to take detailed notes for the next Bonvo
- Bonvo IV: Processing/Discussion of Bonvo III simulation

- o Questions will be developed after simulation to tackle issues/thoughts/feelings addressed in the simulation
- Bonvo V: Making a Difference in Israel-Palestine Conflict
 - o Introduction: Review of previous Bonvos – What did we learn?
 - Facts/feelings
 - o Activity: How do we make a difference? How should individuals, institutions, organizations, governments, etc. respond?
 - Samples: Bonner Program, SRU, the Biden Administration, the UN, etc.
 - Top-down web
 - o Reflection:
 - Are these suggestions plausible?
 - How can they be implemented?
 - How will various peoples react to your suggestions?
 - Are our responses fair to both sides?
 - How did your knowledge of culture/religion/politics influence your responses?
- Bonvo VI: Processing/Discussion of Bonvo V
 - o Focus on previous Bonvos; wrap-up session