# Community Improvement Plan

## Learning Outcome:

Student will develop a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) that seeks to assess structural weaknesses in his/her local and state government and develop a series of corresponding policy solutions.

**Bloom's Level: 6 – Creating**

Students will be first given the assignment in **module 1**.

Students will turn in the assignment after **module 13**.

# AMERICAN GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTIONS

**Assignment:**
The student is tasked with developing a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) that seeks to assess structural weaknesses in their local and state governments and develop a series of corresponding policy solutions.

The CIP will be divided into four components and a final summary video presentation. Each learning module will offer insight into the various facets and mechanisms of both public and private institutions operating in their community. The student will use these insights to assess the organizational and operational impediments present within the respective communities.

**Project Components and Descriptions:**
Student will use mini-assignments 1-4 to complete the final project. Student will take the governmental and community insights learned and create a recorded video presentation pitching his/her Community Improvement Plan to potential supporters in the community. Recorded video presentations must be 8-10 minutes in length and include the following six components:

1. Identify a social, political, economic, or environmental problem in your community.
2. Analyze the current community problem in-depth.
   a. How long has the problem existed?
   b. What is the origin of the problem?
   c. Have previous attempts been made to remedy the problem?
   d. What are the problem's negative impacts on citizens?
3. Propose a solution to the community problem.
   a. On what governmental level will change be implemented?
   b. What current governmental institutions will undertake this task?
   c. Will new governmental or private institutions need to be established?

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4. Identify the resources needed to solve the problem
    a. What costs are associated with your proposed solution?
    b. What are the legislative outcomes needed?
        i. New state laws?
        ii. New local regulations?
        iii. An amendment to the state constitution?
5. Identify two organizations with similar missions in your state.
    a. How did they tackle the problem facing your community?
    b. Provide insight into steps these organizations took that you can implement to address the problem in your community.
6. Conclusion
    a. What is the key takeaway from your research?
    b. Do you think you will be able to make an impact on your issue?
    c. Did you make any discoveries that changed/modified your views?

You are going to present this speech to members of your community to gain support. Be sure to use verbal citations from your research to support your arguments or findings. Also make sure you are being filmed to show at least ¾ of your body, but ideally, aim to record yourself so that your full body is shown. You will turn in the link to your uploaded video on YouTube or Vimeo.

You will present your speech to an audience. For some of you, you might have an opportunity to present for a class. If you don't have a class audience, you will need to find an audience of at least seven adults or people of a similar age to yourself. You can ask friends, coworkers, and family members to watch your speech. Practice setting up the recording shot so you can get a full body (or at least ¾ body) view of the speaker.

**For this assignment, you will need to film yourself speaking. Your video should follow this format:**

1. Introduce yourself to the camera and say what speech you are giving.

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2. Show your presentation outline card - this can be a handwritten card you've created based on the presentation outline you are turning in.

3. Pan your audience. You need to show that you have the required number of audience members.

4. Hand your recording device over to someone that can film you.

5. Deliver your speech

Your presentation should last anywhere from **eight to ten minutes**. You will need to make sure you have verbal citations for the sources you use in your speech. You should include at least four citations for full credit. When presenting you should follow the order of your presentation outline. *The speech should be delivered extemporaneously, meaning you shouldn't memorize it and you shouldn't read it. You should be familiar enough with the material to be able to speak with only brief references from your presentation outline to remind you of where you are going in the presentation.* The only parts of your presentation that you should read directly to your audience are direct quotations from your sources.

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