**Debate**

**Question: Is President Obama an Imperial President?**

**Preparation:**

Read both *Imperial Presidency* and the 2014 Christian Science article in preparation for class on Monday, 4/18, being prepared to discuss the features of an *imperial president*.

Find and read additional articles on President Obama’s presidency especially as to his actions as president. You should find at least 3 additional articles.

**Debate Day, Tuesday, 4/19:**

Our debate will be free form, meaning no formal opening or rebuttal. I will moderate the debate and, gulp, attempt to keep order. Your assigned side (no whining) is on the reverse. Here are our rules:

* Come prepared with notes based on your research including a list of your sources (see above). You’ll turn these in at the end of the hour and get them back Wednesday.
* Self- record comments and self- evaluate with cards.
* I’ll impose “gag” orders if only a few dominate to excess
* Speak only when recognized
* No personal attacks
* Attacks on a person’s logic (lack thereof), poor reasoning, weak fact, factual errors etc.) are expected
* All must talk
* Passion is encouraged
* Towards the end of the period we’ll debrief and evaluate the debate. You’ll select the “winning” side

**Written Assignment** **Due Monday, April 25, 2016**

As a follow-up to the debate, write a 600 – 800 word editorial on the question from your own perspective. Use the information you learned from the debate and your research to craft your opinion.

Include a work cited page, MLA format, at the end of the paper. NO citations are needed in the text itself.

Double space

**Is President Obama an Imperial President?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **YES** | **NO** |
| Tessa | Chris |
| Robert | Andrew B. |
|  Peyton | Ian |
| Sam | Andrew Y. |
| Nick | Kristina |
| Leena | Emily |
| Heather | Kendall |
| Sarah |  |

**Grading:**

Paper – 60 pts

Debate/ notes – 40 points