**Political Candidates Assignment**

**Step One**: **Gather your information** on the candidates that are running in this year’s election. These are the candidates:

Candidates for Governor of Florida

Andrew Gilliam (Democrat)

Ron DeSantis (Republican)

Candidates for US Senate from Florida

Rick Scott (Rep) Bill Nelson (Dem)

Candidates for US House of Representatives from Florida

Matt Gaetz (Rep) Jennifer Zimmerman (Dem)

Make sure you find information on *each of the candidates*. You must include:

1. **Experience**- What experience do they have for the position they are running for. I’m not looking for every single detail from their life, I am just looking for the experience they might have already had as a leader or a politician that makes them a good candidate to run for election in 2018.
2. **Campaign Platform**- Look up *one campaign issue* that this candidate is interested in. Example: gun control, the economy, education or the environment.
3. **Positive Political Campaign Add**: - Find *one positive* political add online. This could include a video of a commercial or a picture of them in a political add. What is the message of this add? Is it convincing? Is it effective, if so, why?
4. **Negative Political Campaign Add**- Find *one negative political add* online about this candidate. What is the message of this add? Is it convincing? Is it effective, if so, why?

Ways you can find this information that you are looking for:

* Type in the candidate’s name in Google search bar. Example: Rick Scot or both Rick Scot and his challenger, Bill Nelson. This will lead you to variety of links which will give you information on each candidate.
* One website that is really good is: <https://www.realclearpolitics.com>.
* When using a candidate’s web page, try to look around the top of the homepage that will help you find links to the Issues the candidate believes in.

**Step 2: Presenting this information**

* You should present your information in Google slide format or PowerPoint if you wish. You may add videos, pictures, animations or any other features which make your final assignment stand out.
* Your slide should cover **all of the criteria set out in step 1**.

**/10pts**

* Your project should clearly indicate that you have tried to find information about the candidates involved in this year’s US elections.

**/2pts**

* You should also include *at least one slide* about what you have learned from this project. What did you learn about the candidates? What did you learn that you did not know before and of which you found interesting?

**/2pts**

* Lastly, if you could have voted in this past election, would your research change your mind about who you would vote for, why or why not?

**/2pts**

**Step 3: Evaluation**

* Your assignment will be evaluated according to how well you met the criteria laid out in steps **1** and **2** and **3**. In particular, you will need to have clearly demonstrated
* What you have learned about the candidates.

**/1pt**

* Their positions on issues.

**/1pt**

* How they differ from each other.

**/1pt**

* How you think each of these candidates might impact the lives of Floridians if they are elected.

**/1pt**

**Total: /20pts**

Students who have clearly met the criteria laid out in steps **1, 2** and **3** and who have made sure that their final project is neat, colorful and stands out, will receive up to **20 out of 20** for this assignment.