Persuasive Speech:

You are to pick a subject and topic of your choice. Even so, it is often the case that the less familiar the topic is to the audience, and me, the better. New/unfamiliar topics typically generate more interest. Remember to respect your audience. Don't avoid controversial topics, but it should not be your goal to offend, alienate, or isolate your listeners either.

Recall that in order to be successful you must be able to directly relate your topic into the lives of your audience. It is therefore likely that your speech will have to educate as well as persuade. Keep your audience in mind while creating this speech: are they for, against, or neutral toward you topic?

Speech Specifications:
- Having a clearly stated and forceful call to action is imperative for this assignment. If this is not identified in the introduction or only appears in your closing sentences your persuasive plea will not be as strong as it should be.
- Visual aids are encouraged, but not required.
- Speeches are to be delivered extemporaneously.
- Those students who excessively use their notes or simply read their “speech” will likely receive no better than a “C” grade.
- If your speech goes longer than the maximum allotted time you will be stopped and the missing material will not be counted towards your score.
- Organization, delivery and quality of your persuasive appeal will be weighed equally for grade determination.
- 6-9 minutes in length

Written Requirement:
- A typed outline with a bibliography citing at least four (4) sources must be turned in on the day of your speech, before you deliver your speech.
- You must turn in copies of at least three (3) of your sources. These copies will not be returned.
- Points will be deducted if these two elements are not present and turned in on the day of your speech, prior to delivering your speech.