

Standard 3	Campaign Finance
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In this project, you will explore the complex world of campaign finance in the United States. You will delve into the regulations, sources of funding, and the influence of money in political campaigns. Additionally, you will critically analyze the advantages and drawbacks of the current campaign finance system.

Project Objectives

- Understand the concept of campaign finance and its importance in the United States.
- Explain the regulations and sources of funding in political campaigns.
- Analyze the influence of money in political campaigns.
- Develop critical thinking and research skills.
- Enhance communication and presentation skills.

Task Option 1: Create a visually engaging and informative presentation to explain the concept, regulations, and influence of campaign finance. Use Google Slides, or any other presentation software of your choice.

Task Option 2: Write a 2-3 page essay (double spaced) that explains the concept, regulations, and influence of campaign finance.

Content: Your submission should cover the following aspects:

- Overview of campaign finance, including its definition and historical context.
- Explanation of the regulations and laws governing campaign finance, such as contribution limits and disclosure requirements.
- Analysis of the different sources of funding in political campaigns, including individual donations, political action committees (PACs), and super PACs.
- Discussion of the influence of money in political campaigns, including the potential for corruption and the impact on policy decisions.
- Examples and case studies illustrating the role of campaign finance in past elections. (at least two examples or case studies)
- Analysis of ongoing debates and proposed reforms in campaign finance. (recent events)

1. Research: Conduct thorough research on campaign finance in the United States, focusing on *regulations*, *sources of funding*, and the *influence of money* in political campaigns. Utilize credible sources such as government websites, academic journals, and reputable news outlets. You are expected to properly cite your sources and include a full and complete bibliography.
2. You are researching Federal government campaign finance, not state or local.
3. Visuals: Incorporate relevant images, charts, and graphs to enhance understanding and engagement. These can be included in an essay. Ensure that all visuals are properly cited. (at least two)
4. Analysis: Provide a balanced analysis of the advantages and drawbacks of the current campaign finance system. Support your analysis with evidence and logical reasoning.
5. Conclusion: Summarize your findings and present your own perspective on the need for campaign finance reform.

Potential Resources to Consider

- Federal Election Commission - Campaign Finance:
<https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/>
- OpenSecrets.org - Center for Responsive Politics:
<https://www.opensecrets.org/>
- Brookings Institution - Campaign Finance Reform:
<https://www.brookings.edu/topic/campaign-finance-reform/>

Additional Notes

- Feel free to collaborate with your classmates on research and discussions, but ensure that your presentation reflects your individual understanding and analysis.
- Use proper citation and referencing techniques to acknowledge the sources of your information.
- Seek guidance from your teacher if you have any questions or need clarification throughout the project.

Campaign Finance Rubric

	2	1.5	1.0	0.5	0
Overview of Campaign Finance	Overview of campaign finance was thorough, accurate, and relevant	Overview of campaign finance was accurate and relevant	Overview of campaign finance was accurate and/or relevant, lacked depth	Overview of campaign finance was missing depth and key details	Unacceptable
Explanation of regulations	Explanation of regulations was thorough, accurate, and relevant	Explanation of regulations was accurate and relevant	Explanation of regulations was accurate and/or relevant, lacked depth	Explanation of regulations was missing depth and key details	Unacceptable
Discussion of the influence of money	Overview of campaign finance was thorough, accurate, and relevant	Overview of campaign finance was accurate and relevant	Overview of campaign finance was accurate and/or relevant, lacked depth	Overview of campaign finance was missing depth and key details	Unacceptable
Examples of case studies to illustrate	Several relevant examples of case studies were clearly explained	Several relevant examples of case studies were somewhat explained	Some case studies were explained	Few case studies were identified	Unacceptable
Analysis of the positions of debate	Balanced, clear, and thoroughly documented	Somewhat balanced and clear, documented	Lacks balance or clarity, limited evidence	Lacks balance and clarity, little evidence	Unacceptable