

# Student Handout: Final Essay On Civic Virtue

**Overview:** You are going to *rewrite* your one-page essay detailing your ideas on whether or not most Americans today have civic enduring virtue.

The essay will have **five** paragraphs:

1. In the **first paragraph**, define civic virtue using at *least five words or phrases* that describe the characteristics of a person with civic virtue.

2. The **second paragraph** will be two sentences:

**Sentence one:**

Either: In my opinion, most Americans today have enduring civic virtue

Or: In my opinion, most Americans today do not have enduring civic virtue.

**Sentence two:**

Either: I have maintained my original opinion from the first essay.

Or: This opinion differs from my first essay.

3. The **third paragraph** will have a specific example to support your opinion.

4. The **fourth paragraph** will have another specific example to support your opinion.

**Note:** Both examples need to be specific and supported with at least one fact. At least one of the examples must be supported with facts or opinions taken from an outside source. You may use facts or statistics from the two articles we read in class, or you may use information that you have discovered or researched on your own. If you use your own information, you must properly cite the source in your essay.

5. The **fifth paragraph** must clearly and accurately state an argument used by students whose opinion differed from the one you currently hold. You must then write a response (rebuttal) to that argument.

The final draft with the rough draft attached is worth **25 points**.

The rough draft is worth **10 points** and the final draft is worth **15 points**

(3 points for each of the **five** paragraphs written according to the above directions.)

