



Tags: [grade 7](#) [history](#) [podcast](#)

Updated Oct 19, 2009 1:26 PM by [Miri Rubin...](#)

Political Debate

Dear 7th Grade History students,

Step 1: Choose Your Issues:

You will be creating an audio podcast to present to your classmates the different sides of current political issues that are facing American today. In preparation for the podcast, you may choose any three of these issues:

- healthcare
- gun control
- abortion
- environment
- women in combat
- presidential power and national security
- War in Iraq
- War in Afghanistan
- Stem cell research
- illegal immigration
- death penalty

Step II: Research your Issues

Please use the following web resources to reserach the different views on your chosen issues:

[Political Base.com](#)

[CNN overview of issues during elections](#)

[Pro-Con.com](#)

[The White House website on presidential policies](#)

[Overview of Conservative Views](#) and [more about Conservative views.](#)

[Liberal Views](#)

Step III: Chart your Issues  [current issues chart.doc](#)  Download this file for each issue

Step IV: Create Your Podcast

Garage Band: Current Events Podcast

Goal: To create a podcast of a debate and showcase your understanding of two important current political issues.

What program should I use?

Log on to the Mac side of the computer in the computer lab. To do this, hold your ALT key on the keyboard as you reboot the computer.

Use the program called **Garage Band** to record your podcast. You can find it in the application folder of in the dock (looks like a guitar icon)

Where do I save my podcast? Make sure to select your own folder (your name on directory) as your location for the file BEFORE you begin recording. You will need to continue working on this computer each time you work on your podcast.

How do I record my podcast?

After you do your research and prepare your script, select a track for recording (male or female voice, and simply press the record button)

Later, you may add music and sound effects by opening the **Jingles** option and inserting sounds to enhance your audio,

How long should my podcast be?

Your podcast should be no shorter that 2:10 minutes and no longer than 3:00 minutes. Use your time wisely and focus on the most important points.

You may begin by recording a slightly longer podcast and then cut out pauses and less important audio.

How do I cut out audio?

Use your **EDIT-Split** tool to cut a track in the a specific spot and then delete the extra parts.

What must I include?

1. 2 to 3 minutes of debate
 2. Coverage of at least three issues
 3. three to four voices (moderator, Conservative, Liberal (Moderate))
 5. At least one sound effect (i.e. opening music)
 6. At least one direct quotes by a member of Conservative/Liberal view.
- Good luck!

CREATEDATE 9/9/08 11:12 PM



[Other Blogs](#)

[Log In](#)

[Help](#)