**Mosleytown**

Mosleytown is a small municipality in Pride County, North Carolina. It is considered to be a suburb of Leesville City. It is adjacent to a major Interstate highway and the state border with Virginia. The town is within 30 miles of a small state university, a military base, and a historic tourist destination.

The residents of Mosleytown are mostly middle class so property values are moderate. The population is racially diverse but some *de facto* segregation persists. The majority is Protestant but there is a growing Catholic Hispanic immigrant population. The average age is increasing due to the Baby Boomer population and young people moving to Leesville City after they graduate.

A major employer in the town is Mo’Town Furniture Factory, but it had to downsize during the recession. There has been major debate over trying to get a federal grant to build a dam to help with flooding and water shortages in the area. Recently, Leesville City has begun discussing the possibility of annexing Mosleytown. The schools perform below the Pride County average on N.C. state tests.

As a municipal government in North Carolina, Mosleytown has a weak mayor system so the mayor acts as the chairperson of the town council. The town government was recently cited in the *News and Observer* for successfully reducing its crime rate over the past ten years. The current Mayor is not seeking re-election because he was implicated in a scandal involving the Town Manager’s misuse of municipal resources. Once the new Mayor is elected, the Town Council will hire a new Manager.

**Mayoral Election Process**

Some time will be given in class to work, but you will have to do most for homework using Edmodo or other technology. This is a tentative schedule, so stay tuned for changes.

Days 1-2

1. Go over directions, make decisions with group, research, create materials
2. Candidates make short speeches to announce candidacy
3. Board of Elections publishes rules and regulations for campaigning and debate

Days 3-4

1. Candidates, Parties and Interest group campaign
2. Town Council publishes proposals
3. Media conducts/publishes interviews and public opinion polls
4. Undecided voters read/discuss campaign materials to write and submit questions for town hall debate

Day 5

1. Candidates debate questions asked by voters, moderated by media
2. Board of Elections publishes procedures for election
3. Wrap up campaigns

Days 6-7

1. Conduct election, everyone votes based on their assigned perspectives
2. Candidates make acceptance/concession speeches
3. Media reports on the outcome of the election with quotes/statements provided by the parties, interest group, and voters.

**Group Assignments**

Board of Elections
Research the process of how an election is run at the local level. Create the procedures and rules that we will use to have our Mayoral election. Create the ballots and count the results.

Town Council
Decide on 2-3 issues that need to be addressed by the Council. Write and publish proposed ordinances or budget changes based on your assigned party. Work with your political party to campaign and get your candidate for Mayor elected. Assign 2 Democrat, 2 Republican.

Democratic Party
Identify Democratic platform issues that affect the local community to focus on. Nominate a candidate for Mayor to run in the election, and then campaign to get that candidate elected.

Republican Party
Identify Republican platform issues that affect the local community to focus on. Nominate a candidate for Mayor to run in the election, and then campaign to get that candidate elected.

Third Party
Choose a third party that exists in the U.S. and research to find platform issues that affect the local community to focus on. Nominate a candidate for Mayor to run in the election, and then campaign to get that candidate elected.

Interest Group
Choose an interest group that exists in the U.S. that would have a stake in the outcome of the local community election. Decide which candidate for Mayor to endorse based on your issue, and help campaign to get that candidate elected.

Media
Interview the different groups and candidates involved in this election. Conduct public opinion polls and publish the results. Choose a moderator for the debate. Report on the outcome of the election.

Undecided Voters
Research all the candidates, parties, and groups. Write questions to ask each candidate in the debate about their specific platform issues based on your research and the perspective of the role you are assigned. Explain how you voted from that perspective based on which candidate seems to be the best representative of your interests. Assign roles:

RUBRIC

\_\_\_ / 2 Directions followed and completed, due date met, edited/legible

\_\_\_ / 2 Effective research and preparation for your assigned role

\_\_\_ / 2 Clear evidence of critical thinking and application of content

\_\_\_ / 2 Positive group contribution and collaboration

\_\_\_ / 2 Use of creativity, persuasive techniques, public speaking, etc.

\_\_\_/10 TOTAL

* Public school teacher, married with
2 teenage children
* Hispanic naturalized citizen, part-time sales associate taking community college courses
* Retired military, disabled veteran
* Recent college graduate still looking for job, living with parents
* African American doctor
* Unemployed, single mother