

**Aeneid Propaganda Project**  
**Due: Wednesday April 18 (Eastside)**  
**Thursday April 19 (Mandarin)**

Some have said that Virgil's *Aeneid* the first instance in history of a work of art being used in a large-scale propaganda effort. *Webster's Dictionary* defines propaganda as "the spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person." The term *propaganda* is a neutral term. The content of such propaganda determines whether it is "good" or "bad." As a device in rhetoric, the distinguishing feature of propaganda is that propaganda is the presentation of only one side of an argument.

Your task is to create propaganda to support a city, or a people, or a subclass of that city or people (for example, the right of a certain family or group of people to rule the city. You may also create propaganda in support of social issues (for example, women's rights). If your *Republic* project was of sufficient depth, you may use an element of your propaganda purposes. Possible examples include: the greatness of your city, armed forces recruitment, the rights of a certain unit of the people, and the legitimacy of your rulers. You are to create a "myth" that promotes the greatness of your people and how their moment to make a mark on history has come about now.

Here is what you will do:

1. Describe your people. What are their distinguishing features (a nation, a class of people, an oppressed minority, people brought together by a cause, a ruling class . . . ). What are their distinguishing features? This is a item where you will need to include the right detail. In other words, if geography is critical, include geography. If geography doesn't matter, tell where they live and move on. Culture, occupations, civil values, religious convictions and other features are relevant as long as they contribute to what is distinct about your people.
2. Determine what aspect of greatness or pride that you want to promote about your people group.
3. Compose a story of the origins, attributes, and destiny of your people group. What attributes will you emphasize? What is their destiny? How will they attain their destiny? How will they know what their destiny is? Who or what forces guarantee their destiny (for example, the gods in the *Aeneid*, Manifest Destiny in America's pursuit of territory from sea to shining sea . . . ).
4. Devise at least one visual aid to support your cause (poster, photo essay, information leaflets, Powerpoint, or videos, for example).
5. This project may be done as an **individual** or as a **group**.
6. **This project will be presented on the due date. Barring special circumstances, there will be no extensions, as we are scheduling class time for this.**
7. A rubric will be available soon.