Announcements/Reminders:

* **Rules and Policies**: As we continue for the rest of the semester, please be reminded of the following:
	+ **Tardy** – If you are tardy, sign in at the front left table when you arrive. Consequences will happen!
	+ **Food** – Food is not permitted during class. Drinks, with a lid, are acceptable. Clean up your space!
	+ **Technology** – Cell phones should be stored during class. Avoid charging your phone during class.
	+ **Assessments** – Missed quizzes and tests, due to excused absences, must be made up within 3 days
	+ **Assignments** – Students taking the class for “academic” credit may submit late assignments up to the unit test for a maximum grade of a 50.
* **Growth Mindset**: At the beginning of the year, we watched a video on the growth mindset and debriefed on what that means in the classroom. As we move forward, I challenge you to set new goals for yourself and consider your challenges, feedback, effort and mistakes from the first quarter.
* **JHS Speaker Series** – Sponsored by the Social Studies Department and generous community support, the JHS Distinguished Speaker Series brings four dynamic speakers to our school. Every student will be required to attend the event in January. Those students taking the class for “academic” credit are required to attend one additional event, while the students taking the class for “honors” credit are required to attend two additional events. The remaining events may earn extra credit. Save the following dates:
* January 16 – David Reese, Founder/CEO of the East Durham Children’s Initiative
* February 19 – Dr. Martin Smith, Duke University
* March 4 – Dr. Mary Jo Festle, Elon University
* April - TBA

UNIT OVERVIEW
By this point in the year, we have been introduced to the notions of poverty in this country, reviewed measurement and causes, and analyzed the history of economic inequality. The fourth unit of the year focuses specifically on poverty and economic inequality in our state, evaluates the present-day challenges, and presents relevant topics. We will assess this topic through presentations on January 14 and January 16. Groups – of 3 – are your choice and must be created by the beginning of class on Thursday, Dec 19. If everyone is not included, groups will be assigned.

PROJECT TOPICS

Your group will cover one of the topics below. Topics will be drawn randomly.

* Bertie County
* Charlotte
* Child Poverty in NC
* Community Organizations
* Criminal Justice Debt in NC
* Durham
* Wilkes County
* Education & Poverty in NC
* Goldsboro
* High Point
* Hunger in NC
* Medicaid Expansion in NC

UNIT PLAN

Friday, December 13

 Discussion:Unit Overview, Video/Discussion on Poverty in NC **Homework: Read and annotate article “The Changing Face of Poverty in North Carolina”**

Tuesday, December 17

 Discussion: Seeing the Invisible: A Yearlong Look at NC Poverty

 **Homework: Finish previous assignment**

Thursday, December 19

Discussion: Documentary: Durham – A Self Portrait (take notes)

**Homework: None!**

Monday, December 23 – Friday, January 3

NO SCHOOL – HOLIDAY BREAK

Monday, January 6

 Discussion: Group Work – Laptop Cart

**Homework: Work on project**

Wednesday, January 8

Discussion: Group Work – Media Lab 1

**Homework: Work on project**

Friday, January 10

Discussion: Group Work – Dell Lab

 **Homework: Work on project**

Tuesday, January 14

PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Thursday, January 16

 PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

NOTE: 2nd Quarter ends on January 17th