**Business and Taxes – Final Project**

In class, we discussed Amazon's tax situation and how they are able to use incentives to lower the amount of tax they owe on their profit. We learned that, due to tax breaks given to corporations in America, Amazon did not pay any federal tax dollars last year. This is despite the fact that Amazon is one of the wealthiest corporations in the world right now, posting more than a $10 billion net profit last year. We discussed different economic theories, such as trickle-down economics and middle-out theory and connected them to Amazon's tax situation. We learned how the government budgets their spending with tax dollars and where these tax dollars come from. We even spent time weighing the pros and cons to Amazon's substantial tax breaks last year. Now I want to hear your voice on the matter. Given everything that we have learned about the tax system and economic theories, *should large businesses like Amazon pay taxes?*

Do not worry about trying to figure out an ultimate truth to this problem – there is not one. You can make a strong case for either side of the argument - there is no single correct answer. What I do want to see is that you support your argument by using evidence from the articles and videos we used in class. Reference the articles about economic theories, the video we watch the discussions held in class about taxes and national budgets, or the video watched in class to help build your case around whether or not large corporations like Amazon should pay taxes.

You will have a few options for answering this question.

* **Essay Format** – write a 5 paragraph essay explaining your answer to this question. Your essay should follow a proper formatting with an introductory paragraph that explains the issue at hand and states your thesis. You will follow that with three supporting body paragraphs in which you use evidence from our work in class to make your case. Finally you will conclude your argument by summarizing your main points and restating your thesis.
* **Presentation** – create a PowerPoint or a poster that introduces the topic and offers up supporting reasons for whether or not companies should have to pay taxes. Your presentation should include graphics to add a visual element to your work. You will not have to present in front of the class, so your presentation should make your argument clear without you being there to explain it.
* **Video** – record a video in which you explore the question. Make your position on the topic clear and then offer up supporting reasons. You should introduce the topic and then have at least three reasons to support your answer.
* **Art Medium** – paint a picture, create a drawing, make a sculpture, write a song or any other creative and artistic medium for expressing your answer to this question. You can choose any creative way of showing your position on this topic. What ever you choose, you must include an artist’s statement of approximately one page explaining how your piece answers the question.