

Election of 1912

Intro

You will be participating in a mock election that will represent the issues and candidates of the 1912 election. You will play the role of either a candidate or a political advisor. Your goal in the election is to get your candidate elected. Once your specific role in the election is determined you will have specific tasks to perform.

Background

It is 1912. William Howard Taft has been the President for the last four years. He was the hand-picked successor to the popular president Teddy Roosevelt. Teddy has returned from his retirement to challenge Taft for the nomination. Since both Taft and Roosevelt are both Republicans, only one could be chosen to represent the party, Taft. Teddy has formed his own party to continue his run for a third term as President. The Democrats have chosen Woodrow Wilson, a former Princeton University president. There is a fourth candidate, Eugene Debs. Debs is a socialist and has many radical ideas on how to solve the nation's problems. Your job in this simulation is to get one of these candidates elected to the highest office in the land.

Roles

Candidate: Your job is to be the talking head for your party. You will need to give a speech, participate in a policy debate against the other candidates, possibly appear in commercials, and respond to any issues that come along during the campaign. You will need to research your personal background and the issues. You must look good, sound good, and get elected.

Spin Doctors: Your job is to make your candidate sound good. You will need to research your candidate, the issues, and the other candidates. You will help prepare the speech for your candidate, prep your candidate for the debate, and help your candidate respond to any issues. You will need to prepare two questions to ask at the debate. Use questions that will make your candidate look good and the others bad. You must give the questions to your opponents the day before the debate.

Public Relations: Your job is to make your candidate look good. You will produce a commercial(s) to promote your candidate and put down the opposition. You will need to research your candidate, the issues, and the opposition. Your commercial must convince the voters that your candidate is better than the other candidates. Use actual evidence to make your candidate look good and your opponent look bad.

Agenda

<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Monday</u>
Research	Speech	Debate
Preparation	Commercial	Commercial
	News Flash	Press Conference
		Vote