

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What (and where) is Midland?**

Midland is a made-up state with a made-up university. You'll find five made-up ZIP codes in this project as well. Centertown, of course, is a made-up town. You should assume that Midland is "in the Midwest" of the United States (and, yes, "the Midwest" is left undefined). Centertown is big enough to have a newspaper and a university. Maybe Midland is like Michigan (or Ohio, or Indiana, or Illinois, or Iowa). Maybe Centertown is like Kalamazoo (or Columbus, or Ann Arbor, or Springfield, or Cedar Rapids). One of the documents says that Midland has at least five ZIP codes, so you know it's at least that large.

### **What am I supposed to do?**

You will be writing an essay and you will be graded on that. Right now, you should be talking with the other people in your group about the five documents. The page titled "Instructions" gives you the most important information about the written assignment. You are not allowed to use information from other sources (like going online).

### **I'm still confused.**

The next time we have class, you will turn in a completed essay (see the instructions). After class today, you will have access to PDFs of all the documents in your packet. You will write your own essay based on those documents, what you're learning in your discussion with your group today, what we've learned in class, and your own reasoning skills. If your essay shows evidence of material obtained from additional research, your grade will be reduced.

### **So I'm not supposed to do any research?**

That's correct. These documents, your discussion today, your textbooks, your notes from class and your own thinking are all you need.