

6

Introduction to SLX

Introduction

This module aims to introduce the SLX project to the students and give them the opportunity to pick groups and pick the policy they want to analyze.

Objectives

1. Students will understand what SLX is.
2. Students will know what policies they want to study for their project.
3. Students will know who is in their SLX project groups.

Agenda

1. Introduce SLX
2. Topic Selection Form
3. Select groups and topics
4. Answer any questions students may have about SLX and their projects

What is SLX (Student Leadership Exchange)?

- LEAD culminates in the presentation of student projects, developed in elective modules, at the annual **Student Leadership Exchange (SLX)**. SLX provides students an opportunity to present their projects and research to entrepreneurs, visiting professors, experts in their fields, IMSA faculty, state legislators, and most importantly each other. SLX functions much like an academic conference focusing on youth leadership, bringing awareness to social issues from around the world.
- Specifically for EnACT, the SLX project is divided into two portions: **developing opinions and a real life activism project**. The first portion involves students connecting with a policy/movement/current event and advocating for changes and improvements within their chosen policy/movement/current event. The second portion, the activism project, where the students take action themselves by pushing for an initiative or action that aligns with the policy/movement/current event that they chose in the first portion. Students will also be expected to take their activism beyond SLX (reaching out to legislators, speaking at rallies, etc).

Topic Selection

Purpose:

Students will choose their general SLX topics and project groups.

Directions:

1. Instruct students to fill out this form [<https://forms.gle/Hr9THbJ25gJStbHu5>], ranking their top choices of topic for the SLX project
2. Divide up groups based on interest.

Work Time

Purpose:

To allow students to work with their group to brainstorm and finalize possible topics regarding their SLX project.

Directions:

- Have students separate into their chosen groups to brainstorm ideas for their project, the remainder of the module will be work time.
- Facilitators should float around answering questions and giving advice for developing projects.

Discussion Questions:

- What is the importance of the topic you chose to both you and IMSA? Why do you believe this problem was important to address?
- What are some basic first steps in ensuring your SLX project is successful?