WH – Weiss  
Napoleon

**Part 1: Discuss - Questions from Video:**

**Part 2:**

1. *Code of Conduct:* Read and the Code of Conduct that Napoleon authored and that French law is based upon today. Pick out what you believe are the strong or “good” parts of the code and look for parts of the code that you disagree with or you believe are “weak”. (Some ideas could be both strengths and weaknesses and others could have different perspectives, be ready to discuss and defend responses)
2. *Bill of Rights:* Turn attention to the US Constitution’s Bill of Rights, pick out what you feel are the strengths and weaknesses of our governing document.

<http://billofrightsinstitute.org/founding-documents/bill-of-rights/>

Part 3:

Using what you have learned about both documents, working in small groups you with draft a governing document of your own by choosing the strongest parts of Napoleon’s civil code and the U.S. Constitution. Once you have decided which parts of each document should be included, you will need to construct your document and give it an appropriate title.

In a separate document, you will need to answer the following in a short written response that answers the following questions about the document you created:

1. Why did you think it was important to include the ideas you chose for your governing document? Give specific examples or reasons.
2. Some ideas from Napoleon's Civil Code and the Bill of Rights were left out. Why did you think it was better not to include these ideas in your document? Give specific reasons or examples to support your decision.
3. Why do you believe the document you created could be a successful means for governing people? Explain your reasons.

8 elements = A, with solid explanation for why this is important.

7 elements = B, “”

6 elements = C, “”

**Final Part:**

After completing the activity above, explore further by completing a piece of writing that discusses and examines one of the following questions:

1. When looking at strengths of the two documents and the fact that they have both endured for more than 200 years, discuss how a set of laws and ideas this old can still apply effectively to people today.
2. Over time, some interpretations of the laws and ideas listed in the Civil Code and the Bill of Rights may change or evolve based on the needs of the society. We can see this in the U.S. Constitution when we look at the process for changing amendments and the amendments that have been revised over time. Discuss an example of a change in the interpretation of the law that we see in our society today and whether or not you believe it would be beneficial to change the law or its interpretation. (Hint: the debate over the right to bear arms, prayer in schools, etc.)