

Utopian Community: Things to Do & Consider

Group Leader

- Coordinate all of the planning decisions for the group/community. Be sure the decisions of each of your members produce a realistic & viable community.
- What are the goals of your community? (social, economic, religious)
- Determine the vision for your community. Develop a list of 5 beliefs to guide the community.
- What type of government will you have in your community? Are there restrictions on who can be part of the government?
- Determine the rights & responsibilities for the community.
- Decide whether your group will close itself off from the world, or if it will allow some interaction with the outside world.
- Determine the name of your community.
- Determine where your community will be located in the United States. Choose a location that will allow you to farm, build, and so on. You are also looking for isolation, but will you need to be close to markets?
- Who can join your community? Are there any qualifications?
- What are the desired characteristics for your leader? Will you lead alone or will others help?
- Are specific laws or rules necessary for your community, or will your members do the right thing automatically? If you have rules, list 4 or 5 rules that everyone must follow.

Group Economist

- Determine how your community will survive economically. Will your community be subsistence farmers, make a product that you sell to the outside world, or a combination?
- Who will work in your community? Just men, or men & women? Will children work? Is work required or voluntary? Will women be allowed to do the same work as men, or will it be different? Will individuals be paid? Will individuals keep their earnings or will they go to the group?
- Will the group allow purchase of goods from the outside world?

Group Sociologist

- You must consider how you will set up all segments of your utopian society. Be sure to coordinate with your leader.
- Will there be a specific goal for the community? What is it?
- What will be your rules for dating and marriage? Will you have single or multiple marriages? Will you regulate marriage in other ways?
- What will be the living arrangements for your community? Will each family have a house, or each male or female have a house, or will they live in dormitories?
- Will you have a specific religion in your community? Will you allow freedom of religion? Will you allow people from other religions to live in your community?
- Will you allow contact with members outside your community?
- Will you have specific rules about when or who can have children? What are they?
- Will you provide education for the children, or will the parents do that? Will they be educated in the community, or can they go to public school outside the community? Will children be raised by their parents or by the community as a whole? Do the children have responsibilities within the community?
- Will there be specific groups in your community, such as social groups or musical groups, etc?
- What will your community do for fun & entertainment? Assuming you allow fun & entertainment.
- How important is family life in your community?

Group Engineer

- What geographic features are necessary for the success of your community? Good land, water, transportation, temperature, resources?
- What type of buildings will your community need to operate?
- Will you need to build individual houses or dorms for living? Will you need a separate facility for the children? How about schools?
- What type of buildings will you need to support the economy of your community? Do you need food storage & processing buildings?
- Will you need factories or other buildings to make the things your community needs to survive?
- Will you need a hospital? How about government buildings? Do you need a church, or churches?
- What is the best & most efficient layout for your buildings? Be sure to make a map.

Technologist

- How will you gather the slides from each group member so that you can build the PowerPoint?
- What kind of deadline will you need in order to assemble the slides & complete the PowerPoint?
- Once completed, how can you get a copy of the PowerPoint to each group member?
- How can you transport your completed PowerPoint to class?
- How can you be sure that your PowerPoint is compatible with the equipment we have in class?
- What can you do if someone in your group doesn't get their slides to you on time?
- What techniques can you use to build an effective PowerPoint that will get you a high grade?
- Are pictures, maps, charts, etc a positive thing on your PowerPoint?
- Are large, easily read fonts better, or should you use very tiny fonts that no one can read?