Building a Claim

“Telephone” Activity

* Divide your class into four groups
* Each group completes round 1, then passes their worksheet to the left
* The next group uses the topics from the first group to complete round two
* Etc., until the worksheets return to their original owners
* The purpose is to break down the process of building a complex claim

**ROUND 1: TOPIC** – Identify ***three*** possible topics for the next group to select from:

**ROUND 2: LINE OF INQUIRY/IES** – Choosing one of the possible topics listed above, develop a series of ***five*** possible questions you could ask about it:

**ROUND 3: CLAIM** – Choosing ***one*** of the lines of inquiry from the last group, develop a *complex claim* that addresses it. (Remember, a complex claim incorporates the “Big 5” – claim, counterclaim, stakes, evidence, roadmap.)

**ROUND 4: GENRE/MEDIUM/ROADMAP** – Based on the complex claim that the previous group developed, identify which genre and mediums you think would most effectively argue the claim, and develop a roadmap that explains how one might build such a project:

* Next steps: have students return to their own claims/lines of inquiry and work on building it toward a complex claim.