



**University of Southern Indiana  
Merit Badge University**

**Citizenship in Nation Merit Badge  
Pre-Requisites**

5. Watch the national evening news for five days in a row or read the main stories in a national media organization (e.g., a newspaper or news website) for five days in a row. Discuss the national issues that you learned about with your counselor. Choose one issue and explain how it affects you, your family, and community.

**-Create a list of 3 national issues to bring with you to discuss.**

6. With your counselor's approval, choose a speech of national historical importance. Explain:

- (a) Who the author was
- (b) What the historical context was
- (c) What difficulties the nation faced that the author wished to discuss
- (d) What the author said
- (e) Why the speech is important to the nation's history
- (f) Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell your counselor why.

**-No hate speech will be approved. Choose the speech and be prepared to answer the questions at Merit Badge University.**

7. Do TWO of the following:

- (a) Visit a place that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Tell your counselor what you learned about the landmark or site and what you found interesting about it.
- (b) Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Tell your counselor what you learned about the capitol, its function, and the history.
- (c) Tour a federal facility. Explain to your counselor what you saw and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves this nation.
- (d) Choose a United States national monument that interests you. Using books, brochures, the internet (with your parent or guardian's permission), and other resources, find out more about the monument. Tell your counselor what you learned, and explain why the monument is important to this country's citizens.

**-Bring with you a written explanation of which two requirements you chose, this can be on paper, a power point, video, etc.**

8. Name your representatives in the United States Congress. Write a letter to your representative in Congress explaining your views on a national issue. Show your letter, along with any response you receive, to your counselor.

**-Write a letter to your Rep or Senator, bring it with you, I will bring envelopes and stamps.**

**Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge  
Resources  
Citizenship in the Nation Workbook  
Link**