

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT FOR POS 130

This course is classified as a Writing Intensive Course, which, according to AWC policy, means at least a third of your grade should be based on “revised written discourse” and that the total writing required for the course should be a minimum of 3,000 words (about 12 pages). This means that a large, complex writing assignment must be a central element of the overall course.

Rather than simply assigning one 3,000 word paper and leaving you to your own devices, we will be completing a research paper of only 2,000 final words, but doing so in stages.

DUE DATES:

- 9-7-14** Turn in a half page explanation of what you plan to write your paper on and why that topic interests you.
- 9-28-14** Turn in an annotated bibliography of at least five outside sources you intend to use in writing your paper (an annotated bibliography is a works cited section with a paragraph or two summarizing each of the sources listed)
- 10-12-14** Turn in an outline of how you intend to organize your paper (1-2 pages) including where you intend to use the sources in your annotated bibliography
- 11-23-14** Turn in a 1500 word rough draft of your research paper
- 12-7-14** Turn in a final 2000 word research paper incorporating my feedback/suggestions

I'm open to ANY suggestion for a research topic, so long as it has to do with State and Local Politics (though you need to approve it through me prior to beginning to write). If you'd like further direction, however, here are a couple of possible prompts.

PROMPTS:

Choose one or two policy areas of interest to you and compare Arizona law in those areas to laws in those areas in other states. Which state do you feel takes the best approach? Which state takes the worst? What can you learn by comparing and contrasting the policies of each state? What would you recommend Arizona do to change its policies in these areas, or do you think they should remain as they are?

Choose an issue of contention between states and the federal government. (e.g. legalizing marijuana in California or enforcing immigration laws in Arizona) Why do the states (or one state in particular) take issue with the federal government in this area? How has their disagreement played out over time? Who do you feel is in the right? What does the future hold?

BEST OF LUCK!