

## **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT FOR POS 140**

This course will soon be 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:**

- 2-9-14** Turn in a half page explanation of what you plan to write your paper on and why that topic interests you.
- 3-9-14** 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)
- 3-23-14** 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
- 4-13-14** Turn in a 1500 word rough draft of your research paper
- 5-11-14** 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 Comparative 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 two countries of interest to you and directly compare the forms of government that exist in each. Explain which form of government you feel is superior and why. Also, explain why you believe each country developed the form of government it did.

Choose an issue of international contention on which two or more countries strongly disagree. Explain why each of these nations takes the stand that it does on the issue at hand. Also, be sure to share your own opinion on the contentious issue and explain why you hold that opinion.

Remember, all opinions must be backed up by research, arguments and facts!

**BEST OF LUCK!**