

# WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT FOR POS 110

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:**

- 9-9-14** Turn in a half page explanation of what you plan to write your paper on and why that topic interests you.
- 9-30-14** 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)
- 10-14-14** 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
- 11-25-14** Turn in a 1500 word rough draft of your research paper
- 12-1-14** 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 American Politics (though you need to approve it through me prior to beginning to write), but I've provided a couple possible prompts suggested by Chapters 14 or 15 in your text. These two chapters deal with certain important rights protected by the bill of rights (Ch. 14) and with groups that have not always been afforded those rights as they should have (Ch. 15).

## **PROMPTS:**

Choose a civil right of interest to you and write a 2,000 word research paper examining the history of how that right has or has not been afforded to Americans throughout the history of our nation. How have legislation, court rulings, etc. influenced Americans' understanding of what this right has meant over time? Also take some time to state your own opinion on how well that right is being protected today and where we might be able to do a better job.

OR

Choose a specific group that has been discriminated against in the past in this country and write a 2,000 word research paper examining its fight to be treated the same as other groups in the nation. How have legislation, court rulings, etc. been used to help or hurt their cause? Be sure to take some time to explain how the group is treated now and whether or not you believe they are still being discriminated against.

**BEST OF LUCK!**