**Independent Assignments – AP Government**

You are responsible for completing **100 points** of Independent Assignments per grading quarter (twice a semester). No more than 40 points may come from any one type of assignment. Points do not carry over, nor do they count as extra credit.

Assignments will be graded on quality, content, and creativity. These are not “all or nothing” when it comes to earning credit for an assignment.

All assignments will be kept and turned in using an Independent Assignment folder, available in the designated file cabinet in class. All assignments will be recorded on a log sheet and kept in the folder until the due dates. Independent Assignments **will not be accepted** past due dates.

100 points are due **Monday** **October 7 (C Day)**

100 points are due **Monday December 4 (C Day)**

TBA – other assignment opportunities will be given as they arise throughout the semester.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **10 Points** | **20 Points** | **40 Points** |
| Create a fakebook for a current or recent government official. This can be done on the computer or drawn on a poster. Include details such as friends, comments, statuses, pictures, etc. Make sure to describe their personal qualifications for the position.  | Find and explain a political cartoon related to a current class topic. Include a copy of the cartoon with your interpretation (1+ page) | Evaluate a political or other public speech (such as TED Talks, etc.). Be sure to include an explanation of the use of the rhetorical triangle, SOAPSTone, etc. Evaluate the effectiveness of the speech as a whole (2+ pages double spaced) |
| Purchase Barron’s AP prep book | Draw and explain a political cartoon related to a current class topic. You don't have to be an artist, but stick figures don't count. No notebook paper either. | Research a current world issue using at least two (2) sources and write a two-page paper (double spaced 12 pt. font) describing the issue, people involved and your personal solution. |
| Complete a practice activity from an AP prep book. Be sure to include your score and an evaluation of your performance on this (1+ pages) | Find, read or watch, and summarize a news story that relates to a current class topic. Be sure to include a copy of the article. Explain its relevance to main ideas learned in class. | Read a book: biography of a politician, historical account of a Supreme Court case, etc. Explain the historical significance of the book's subject/person, connecting it to a class topic (2+ pages) |
| Describe the historical context for an amendment to the federal constitution. Is the amendment still relevant today? Explain why or why not. (1+ page)  | Research and explain the origins and development of a particular institution/law/process/etc. Information can be presented in the format of a paper, a detailed timeline, PowerPoint, or other visual. | Write and send a letter to a congressman (state or federal) regarding your feelings and suggestions on an issue or upcoming vote. Include a copy of the letter and a picture of the envelope stamped. |
| Complete vocabulary terms for the chapter we are currently studying. Can be in the form of notecards, quizlet, or another media. Must be at least 10 terms and cannot be the same as another student in class.  | Evaluate how a person should vote on a particular issue. This could include an issue in an election or even how a congressman should vote on a bill. Use examples from reliable sources. (1+ page) | Write an editorial (your informed opinion) regarding a current political issue. Include reliable sources to support your ideas. (2+ pages) |
| **10 Points** | **20 Points** | **40 Points** |
| Rewrite a political speech and/or document using modern-day language and slang. Must be at least one page double spaced. | Evaluate the voting record of a congressman (state or federal). What does their voting record tell you about their tendencies, affiliations, or other influences? (1+ page) | Interview an expert or activist connected to a political/social issue. Explain what you learned. (2+ pages) |
| Present any of your I.A. projects to the class. | Read a Supreme Court decision and explain your (dis)agreement with the majority opinion. (1+ page) | Conduct and publish a survey regarding a political/social issue. Must survey at least 15 people. Include an analysis of the results. (2+ pages) |
|  | Create a (propaganda) poster representing a political/social issue, person or election. This can be created for the historical time period, or for the present world. | Create a public service announcement (PSA) video regarding a current political/social issue. This may be a group effort. |
|  | Create a movie poster about a current political issue using Ms. Baker’s template.  | Trace the progress of a particular bill and describe its supporters, opposers, and significance. Evaluate your views on the bill. (2+ pages) |
|  | Choose either a current or historical political figure and write one page (double spaced 12 pt. font) including his or her importance and influence in history and a paragraph explaining what you hope your impact on history will be. |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |