

US Government / AP Final Thesis Project – Fall 2018

“The Four Theories of American Government”

Final Due Date: Friday, December 14, 2018 (this is a “drop dead” date. No papers accepted after this date).

Question: Explain the four competing theories of American government. By examining various historical and contemporary aspects of our government (i.e. the question of whether democracy and capitalism can coexist within a politico-economic structure, and whether U.S. immigration policies serve the people or elites), create an overall thesis suggesting which of the four appears to be the more descriptive with regard to the “necessary and ordinary operations of American government.”

I. Title Page (page number 1)

II. Abstract Page (page number 2)

III. Main Body (beginning with page number 3)

a. Introduction / Thesis Statement – a brief description of the four theories followed by a brief statement of your thesis outlining the details of how you will explore this overall question (2 to 3 pages in length).

b. Capitalism and democracy: A natural and positive relationship? Or not possible since they are based on opposing values (first research project – approximately 10 pages of text analysis).

c. U.S. immigration policies: Who do they serve? Does the government manipulate them to serve elite ends? (second research project – approximately 10 pages of text analysis).

d. Conclusion – a wrap-up of your thesis and the conclusions that you have come to based on the evidence you have uncovered (2 to 3 pages in length).

IV. Reference Pages – please complete in APA style (continue page numbering through last reference page).

GRADING RUBRIC

1. Make sure to use the APA form of citation *every time you use a statement or an idea from the readings that I have provided, or that you found in your own independent research.* Using another author’s work without providing proper citation is plagiarism and grounds for immediate failure on this essay.

2. Please type all work on a computer. Only one copy is necessary, it will not be returned. Please **DO NOT STAPLE YOUR PAPER.**

3. An “A” paper will be:

a) *fully documented and cited* using the APA format

b) a *minimum* of 25 - 30 pages in length (with page numbering)

c) research *beyond* authors provided

d) turned in *on time* (Friday, December 14, 2018).