

(50 Points)

Due Wednesday July 22, 2020

The essay exam is based on the following two essays. The student will choose one of the two essays and write a paper approximately 4-5 Pages in length to be submitted online. Please utilize several sources with a consistent citation method and have a bibliography at the end of the paper.

I.

The 2000 and 2016 Presidential elections brought renewed attention to the already controversial electoral college.

1. Please introduce the purpose of your essay.
2. Briefly and fully describe the electoral college. Please include and explain the specific number of electors: representing the states and Washington D.C.; and what numbers are required to win the presidency.
3. Please describe and explain, at least, **(2)** pros and **(2)** cons of the electoral college.
4. If you could improve the electoral college; please choose to either abolish or reform the system. Please provide **two** scholarly arguments and then present your **two** reasons why you would reform the electoral college and explain why your reforms would create a more democratic electoral college? If you choose to abolish the electoral college, specifically explain which voting system would replace it and **2** reasons why your voting system would create a more representative presidential election. Please provide sourced arguments both pro and con to support you position to reform or abolish the electoral college.

II.

The 2008 and 2012 Presidential elections stimulated interest among young adults in the American political system. However, previous election cycles (since the 1970s) often reveal a lack of interest in citizenship and lower voter turnout among adults under 30 years of age, especially when compared to older adults (over 65). Moreover, some Americans have predicted it could decline again in future elections (as it did in 2014).

1. Please introduce the purpose of your essay.
2. Provide **2** possible sourced reasons for the overall decline in citizenship and voter turnout among adults under the age of 30. Compare and contrast younger adults (under 30) with adults over 65 years of age, in terms of basic **citizenship activities**, as well as voting turnout in multiple elections. Please provide statistics and other cited evidence to support your position.
3. Please provide **2** suggestions that might boost interest and participation. Explain why your suggestions could possibly prevent a similar decline among younger adults. Please provide several sourced arguments to support your suggestions to stimulate citizenship among younger adults.

