Congressional Representation Assignment

Due Monday, May 3rd at 8:00AM via your TA's Blackboard Website

The Representation Assignment is designed to have you think about the meaning of representation by considering yourself and your representative (in this case, your Member of Congress) through a little hands-on research and descriptive data collection.

Format Requirements: 3 page essay, typed, double-spaced text in a readable 12pt font with one inch margins. Page count excludes references and required district map.

- 1. Go to https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members to find your congressional district and information about your representative (info such as voting records are available too)
- 2. Go to http://www.census.gov/mycd/?eml=gd# where you can find out demographic and all sorts of other information about that district: income and education levels, and race/ethnic information.
 - a. Save a map (screenshot or other file) of your district for inclusion at the end of your essay. Make sure to source your map and that the source appears among your References/ Works Cited page.
- 3. **Write:** Describe your congressional district the number, it's geographic coverage, the name & party of your representative. You can offer other descriptive information, but do limit your description in terms of how it helps you then answer the following question: Do you as an individual have anything in common with the rest of the population in your congressional district? Is your district on the whole well-represented by your member of Congress? If so/if not, what specific information leads you to draw your conclusion?
 - a. Make sure to reference (cite) where you got your district and other legislative information used for this essay. Use in-text citations for this and add a reference page. Please use the provided APSA citation guide on this assignment.
 - b. Make sure your essay, though brief, follows appropriate structure: Introduction, Body/Supporting Paragraphs, Conclusion.

Final essays must be submitted <u>as WORD or PDF documents</u> to the Turnitin Link provided on your TA's Blackboard website. Late assignments will not be accepted.