

Name: _____

Government Research Paper

Research a topic relevant to Government and Politics in order to produce a paper that explains your findings. The final draft shall be 5-7 pages, double spaced, 12 point type, *excluding* the required Works Cited page. You must develop a thesis to **evaluate a particular governmental issue, concept, function, event, or individual.**

Timetable and Assignments: Consider these Due Dates firm. All assignments must be *typed and are due at the beginning of the bell*. Working at school and home (make use of school email, floppy, memory stick, etc.). A Cincinnati Library Card will also come in handy.

<u>Assignment (all typed)</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Points</u>
Work Effort (in library, in class, Library Card)	3-4 Days	15
Specific Topic and Research Questions	Nov 9	15
Rough Draft, w. Works Cited (5 to 7 pages), Peer Ed.	Nov 19	25
Final Draft (hard copy + Turn-It-In.Com)	Nov 28	50

Selecting a topic: Select a topic within Government and Politics that interests you and that is worthy of research. It may be current or historic (Do NOT select a topic similar to those covered in your Junior English or US History research papers). The more specific and unique your topic, the better your paper will be. You should probably dig deeper into the topic you have begun, but you can change if you wish.

Work Efforts in Library (15 Points)

- You will be graded on how effectively you use time in the library and in class.

Declaring your specific topic & Research Questions: (15 Points).

- A specific paragraph explaining your topic and your take at this point (typed).
- A bulleted list of complex research questions (at least 6) you hope to answer.

Rough Draft with Works Cited (typed) & Peer Editing: (25 points)

- Do arrive with a lengthy, somewhat-polished, rough draft, perhaps longer than the required 5-7 pages. Include a thoughtful Introduction, Conclusion, and a **Works Cited**. Be ready to read portions of your paper aloud and to critique your classmate's paper.
- Don't type this the day before.

Final Draft: (50 points)

- Turn in both hard copy (typed) AND submit to Turnitin.com.
- Turn in Hard Copy at beginning of class: Staple in the following order: Rubric, Brief Research Mission (graded), Peer-edited Rough Draft, Final Draft including polished Works Cited.
- Submit to TurnItIn.com by 3pm Nov 28.
- Students failing to submit to TurnItIn.Com, and those submitting an unoriginal paper, will receive a 0/50.

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Locating “Print” Sources: To find a good book for your topic search our library via OPAC or the Cincinnati Library system.

Finding & Securing a book from the Cincinnati Public Library

1. Log onto **www.cincinnati.library.org**
2. Click on the “Catalog” icon on the right.
3. Try a basic search by entering keywords into the first box. If you are entering an *author* or *title*, be sure to signify this in the drop-down menu. Also, to limit your search to *only books*, use the drop-down menu under “Media Type.” If you want a recent book, limit the *publication year*.
4. By clicking on “Advanced Search” (in middle of screen listed under “Publication Year,”) you can filter out the general titles, and find a more specific books pertaining to your topic.
5. Once you find a title that you want, click on “Details,” which will give you all the necessary **bibliographical info** and library locations. Some books have “A Look Inside” tab, which summarizes the book. Most all have the “Catalog Record” tab which helps too.
6. To obtain a book from a distant location, click on “Place Hold” on the right. The web page will ask for your Library Card number (on the back of card) and PIN (last four digits of your phone number). Then click on “Mariemont” under the drop down menu. You will be able to pick up that book at Mariemont Branch Library in 3-5 days.
7. A confirmation page will come up that has your name, and the book title. Print it out and give to Mr. Wolfford/Mr. Cottrell.

Newspaper & Magazine articles from MHS Online Databases.

EbscoHOST:

1. Connect to MHS Library page/Online Databases/EbscoHOST
2. If at home, use the User Name: “**infohio**” and Password “**explore**”
3. Connect to “Secondary Search.”
4. Use the Advanced Search Function, check only Newspapers or Magazines, and check “Linked Full Text” if you only want articles that will actually appear online.
5. Use key terms, people’s names, events, etc. from your topic. Limit the Publication Dates for current, relevant articles.
6. You can save, email these to yourself, or print them out. **PRINT SPARINGLY!**

NewsBank:

1. Connect to MHS Library page/Online Databases/Newsbank
2. If at home, use the User Name: “**infohio**” and Password “**explore**”
3. Click on the Newsbank Icon
4. You can select Local, State, or National Titles (Newspapers)
5. For a basic search, simply list keywords and limit the time frame.

Others MHS Databases are certainly useful, especially

Thompson Databases: Username: cinc93028, Password: cinc93028