

Name:_____.

Democracy & Authority Unit Assessment:

100 Points

Question: How effectively has the federal government maintained its authority while protecting the rights of the individual and of states?

Assignment:

To write an analytical essay that addresses the above question by drawing upon three time periods that we have studied in this quarter. You must include the Reconstruction Era. Your task is to create an arguable central claim (thesis) that you then proven in a coherent and well-written essay.

Requirements:

- 650-900 words (2-3 pages: double-spaced, include word count on bottom of last page
- 3 in-text citations
- Typed, double spaced, Times New Roman font
- Follows the rubric on the back of this sheet
- You can use the textbook, reader and any information from class.

Here is a “general” list of the time periods that you may choose from:

- Founding Period
- Jacksonian Democracy
- Antebellum America: Marshall Court
- Civil War (Habeas Corpus)/Reconstruction
- Gilded Age
- Progressive Era
- 1920s
- New Deal & Court Packing
- WWI+WWII (Espionage & Sedition Act and Korematsu)
- Warren Court & Great Society
- Rise of Conservatism: Nixon

Grade Breakdown

You will receive two types of assessments for this assignment, one formative and one summative. The total points will be 100 points in your assessment category.

Formative Assessment:

Checkpoint – 10 points: _____.

Create a preliminary central claim (thesis) statement that is an idea, argumentative and fulfills all the requirements of a thesis statement as outlined in your Guidebook to Writing in Social Studies. Under your thesis statement, you must bullet point three to four pieces of evidence you will use to prove your thesis. This thesis statement and evidence must be checked and signed by a lab teacher. After conferencing with the lab teacher, revise your thesis statement and evidence. I'll be checking (1) your original thesis and evidence, (2) the signature of the lab teacher, and (3) your revised thesis and evidence.

Summative Assessment & the Method of Evaluation for Final Paper:

The final paper will be graded out of 100 points in your Assessment Category – see attached rubric.

Final Essay due: _____.

Paper is due at the beginning of class. It must be printed out and stapled. If these requirements aren't met, this paper will be considered late and 5 points will be deducted.

Quick Tips:

- Consider which information is necessary to quote versus paraphrasing or not quoting because it is a fact. The quotation should add *value* to your argument and analysis.
- Your thesis should be underlined and the last sentence of your introduction AND restated as the first sentence of your conclusion.
- Choose supportive evidence, not explanatory evidence. (i.e. a quotation about the Black Codes may be more supportive than an excerpt from the Black Codes.)
- Do not cite facts. (U.S. v Reese undermined the right of the poor to vote)
- Use transitions that add analysis to your ideas.
- Use the internet to help you figure out the citations or see the wikispace
- Consider which feedback is most integral to incorporate