

US LAW AND POLITICS: FINAL TAKE-HOME TEST

You have to answer the question from section A and then any four questions from section B, i.e., a total of FIVE questions. You do not need to answer in essay format. Bullet points, charts, and conceptual maps are accepted. Clarity and precision are essential. **If you answer in essay format, please make sure that you precede every argument or idea by its corresponding heading.** In all your answers, include reference to sources (topics, theories, elements, examples, readings, cases, etc.) that we discussed in class (or that are in the class notes and slides if you missed class). You are not permitted to consult with anyone about this test. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have about the test during class on Wednesday, November 18. After that, please do not ask me questions about the test. As a matter of fairness, I do not want to give answers to some students that others do not have the benefit (or detriment) of hearing. You will simply have to use your own judgment about how to handle any possible difficulties, including the interpretation of the questions and tasks. **Submission:** You need to **submit this evaluation to the Algoma University Moodle platform for this course by the deadline, i.e., November 25, 2020 by 10.00 pm EST.** If you have technical difficulties, you can send this this evaluation to me by email in an MS Word attachment. In that case, please write “US LAW FINAL TAKE-HOME” as the subject of the email.

Section A: Required (20%)

1. Analyze the following scenario.

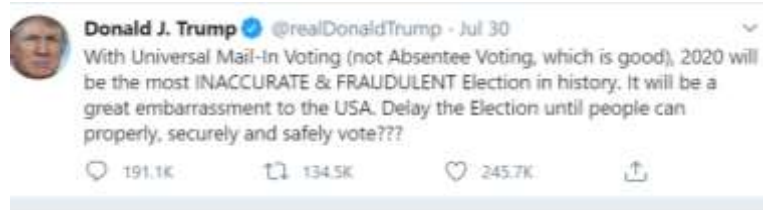
Summarize and discuss the Gore v. Bush Supreme Court case. What happened in the 2000 presidential election? What did the Supreme Court hold in Bush v. Gore? Do you agree? Why or why not? How can this precedent be applied in a potential Trump v Biden case?

Section B: Choose FOUR questions (20% each)

2. Discuss the following tweet.



3. Explain and discuss Donald Trump's tweet. What is universal mail-in voting? Why was Trump opposed to it? What is the difference between absentee voting? How did this affect the presidential election?



4. Suppose that Joe Biden hires you to write a memo with specific measures to adopt on day 1 of his term. He instructs you to include only promises that he made during the campaign. Specify what legal instrument you would suggest for each measure.
5. Suppose that President Trump challenges the result of the 2020 presidential election before the US Supreme Court. The Trump campaign hires you to write the arguments to appeal before SCOTUS.
6. Analyze the connection of the Manifest Destiny doctrine and contemporary Mexican immigration.
7. Discuss examples that illustrate the mythical founding of the United States.
8. Watch the following videos about the Democratic primary debates and discuss them. Why do you think that Kamala Harris was chosen to run with Joe Biden after these remarks?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1OvDB_wavI
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4fjA0K2EeE>
9. Choose one of the constitutional amendments. Summarize and explain the selected amendment. Find and discuss a US Supreme Court case dealing with the selected amendment. Find and discuss a news article dealing with the selected amendment.
10. Discuss the article Covid-19 and the Constitution by Rob Natelson available on the course website. How has the US federal government handled the coronavirus pandemic? What about state and local governments? What measures that governments have taken can be considered unconstitutional?
11. Summarize and discuss the current US foreign policy vis-à-vis Russia. You may take into account the following issues: current conflicts, commercial policy, bilateral treaties,

bilateral relations, and any changes that may take place in the next four years, among many others.

12. Discuss Donald Trump's impeachment. What do you think happened? What did Trump do? What didn't he do? What do you think of Joe Biden's behaviour in the Ukraine affair?