**GOVT 2305, Exam III, Fall 2017**

**Each of the following four questions is worth 25 points. You are to answer each question in paragraph form using complete sentences. You are to work alone, not in collaboration with another student or anyone else. You are to answer each question using your own words. Do not lift content directly from the power points. Your answers need to be concise; do not include extraneous information in the hope that the correct answer is in there, somewhere. Your answers must be typed and a printed copy handed in to me on Tuesday, November 28, our first class following the Thanksgiving break.**

1. Explain the Electoral College. Your answer should include the electoral process by which the U.S. chooses the President, the method for allotting electoral votes to each state and what is meant by “winner take all.”
2. Explain what is meant by the term “Party Identification.” How does party in the U.S. differ from party membership in some European nations? Which party in the American political system has the greatest number of supporters? What is meant by the term “independent?
3. What is a primary election? Your answer should include the difference between an open primary and a closed primary. How do voters who turn out for primary elections differ from voters who vote in general elections? How does this difference impact the way candidates campaign in each type of election? How does a primary presidential election differ from primary elections for other federal offices (U.S. Senate and House of Representatives)?
4. Using the link posted on the Learning Web, watch the video: Gunned Down: the Power of the NRA. (it is less than an hour in length). From what you learned by studying the Interest Groups power point, from viewing the video and reviewing the accompanying “Notes on “Gunned Down” posted on the Learning Web, answer the following question: Why do you think the National Rifle Association is considered the most effective – “the gold standard” of all interest groups operating in the American political system? Your answer will be evaluated based on your ability to demonstrate that you understand the tactics used by the NRA and how these tactics impact members of Congress.