# þÿþÿGovernment 2306- Assignment #1 and Study Guide

## DUE DATE: July 16, 2020

**Points: 25**

**Complete the following components and follow the instructions for each. *Note: Your written analysis on Sections III-V must be a minimum of one meaningful paragraph. However, please put more emphasis on the quality of content rather than the length of your analysis.***

## keyKey terms…….

1. **Describe the significance of eight of the following. Use complete sentences.**

deadwood astroturf lobbying platform

cooptation populism focus groups

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| closed primaries | Iron triangles | white primary |
| open primaries | Cross over voters | realignment |  |
| tipping | Duverger’s Law | dDuvergerLatcontributionscontributions |  |

dealignment late train contributions

1. Answer six of the following. USE COMPLETE SENTENCES.
   1. Describe **two** demographics and explain their impact their impact on the political system in Texas.
   2. Describe the social, cultural and economic changes in Texas that could impact our political system in Texas.
   3. Why are interest groups in Texas considered to be stronger than in other states?
   4. Evaluate the pro’s and or con’s of the system of amending the Texas Constitution.
   5. Describe one of the efforts of reforming the Texas Constitution and explain why such reform has been so difficult?
   6. What is the significance of the Equal protection clause in the Texas Constitution?
   7. Who was **E.J. Davis** and explain his impact on the political system in Texas?
   8. Explain the significance of the ***plural executive*** in Texas.
   9. What is split-ticket and straight ticket **voting?**
   10. Write a brief description of **one** of the following court cases and explain how **this**

impacts conservatism in Texas.

***\*Ruiz v. Texas \* Edgewood v. Kirby \* Lawrence v. Texas***

# Write an analysis of the movie Justice for Sale

# <https://vimeo.com/33285123>

This should help you to evaluate the role of interest groups and voting in our political system

1. Write a brief analysis of Daniel Elazar’s categorization of political culture and add your own perspective of how Texas fits into this characterization.
2. [**https://www.texastribune.org/**](https://www.texastribune.org/) **or** [**https://www.texasobserver.org/**](https://www.texasobserver.org/)

Select an article from one of the above sites and classify whether it represents a conservative **or** liberal ideology.

## Study Guide/Objectives:

* + 1. Know the political culture in Texas.
    2. Know the impact of demographics as well as their impact on policy-making.
    3. Know the distinction between conservatism and liberalism, and the impact of these ideologies on the political system in Texas.
    4. Know the impact of the principle of separation of power impacts our political structure.
    5. Know the purposes and features of the current Texas Constitution.
    6. Know the historical development of the current Constitution, as well as the five documents that preceded the current document.
    7. Know the attempts at writing/adopting a new Constitution
    8. Know the individuals who influenced the development of the state Constitution
    9. Be able to evaluate the process for amending the Texas Constitution
    10. Be aware of the need for such reform, as well as attempts at such reform.
    11. Be able to analyze the validity and effectiveness of the current constitution.
    12. Know the role of interest groups in the Texas political process, as well as the methodologies used to influence the political/policy-making process
    13. Know the role of lobbying and be able to evaluate the validity of the lobby process.
    14. Know why interest groups are stronger in Texas and the role of money
    15. Know the distinction of the ideologies of the two major political parties in Texas.
    16. Know the role and organization of political parties in Texas.
    17. Know the changing nature of demographics and the idea of Texas turning “blue.”
    18. Know the nature and factors that contribute to low voter participation in Texas.
    19. Know the impact and remedies associated with voter disenfranchisement/suppression
    20. Be able to evaluate the power of interest groups and voting
    21. Understand the relevant terms