****

**Reflection: Ensuring Democracy: The Integrity of U.S. Presidential Elections**

**\*Faculty:** This assignment has been designed with flexibility in mind, allowing you to tailor it to the unique needs and focus of your course. By selecting specific reflection questions that align with your course learning outcomes, you can ensure that the assignment complements your curriculum while helping students engage with key issues around the U.S. Presidential election process.

**Purpose:** This assignment is designed to help you gain a clearer understanding of the U.S. Presidential election process and the factors that influence it. By engaging with the material, you'll have the opportunity to reflect on current political issues, ask thoughtful questions, and develop a more informed perspective on how elections work and why they matter.

**Task:**

1. Attend Dr. Hodges' talk on the U.S. Presidential election process.
2. Create a reflection by responding to the following:

 **Key Takeaways**: Summarize the main points discussed during the presentation. What were the most important insights about the election process, and why do you think these points were emphasized by the speaker?

 **Critical Reflection**: What aspects of the talk did you find particularly thought-provoking or challenging? Were there any points you disagreed with or found unclear? How would you approach these issues from your perspective?

 **Connections to Prior Knowledge**: How do the ideas and issues raised in the presentation connect to what you’ve learned in class or from other sources? Do these connections support or challenge your current understanding of U.S. elections?

 **Real-World Implications**: Based on the presentation, what are the potential impacts of the issues discussed—such as voting procedures or court cases—on future elections? Why is it important for citizens to be aware of these topics?

1. Conclude your essay by formulating two well-developed questions that you would ask Dr. Hodges based on the presentation, explaining why these questions are important for understanding the U.S. Presidential election process.

**Criteria for Success (How you will be evaluated):**

* **Understanding of Content:** Demonstrates a clear understanding of the key topics discussed in the talk.
* **Critical Analysis:** Offers thoughtful, well-reasoned responses to the issues raised and connects the talk’s content to broader course themes.
* **Engagement with the Topic:** Formulates two original, thoughtful questions that reflect a deep engagement with the subject matter.
* **Clarity and Organization:** Essay is well-organized, clearly written, free from grammatical errors, and meets the word count.