**Comparative Government Final Part I  
Machiavelli Essay**

You will pick one of the three essay prompts and answer it with original thoughts, lots of cited (with pg. # and chapter) and explained material from the text along with outside examples. It should be typed and PRINTED. **Essays will be due on Wednesday, January 29th, at the start of the period.** NO PASSES FOR PRINTING WILL BE ALLOWED, LATE PAPERS WILL RECEIVE 20% off.

This is an amazing opportunity for you to show off your hard work at understanding the Prince. You are encouraged to use your notes, the text, info from our class discussions, and relevant outside material to write your essay.

**Essay Prompt Options:**  
1. Compare and contrast 3 different ways a Prince can rise to power. Which method of coming to power do you personally think is the best and why?

2. How would Machiavelli define the concept of ‘justice’? Include definitions of justice from our study of ancient Greek philosophers and note how their definitions might be different than Machiavelli’s. Which definition do you agree with the most?

3. How much of the Prince is relevant to contemporary society in an age when monarchies no longer are the primary form of government? Can the advice in the Prince be used effectively in a democratic government and society? Make sure to include examples!

Please see the rubric on the other side of this page to see how you will be graded.

Essay Rubric

**Rubric**

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| --- | --- |
| 31-40 | * Contains a well-developed thesis that addresses all aspects of the question * Effectively uses a substantial number of documents/ evidence from the text, and is correctly cited * Supports thesis with substantial and relevant outside information * Presents detailed and sophisticated analysis of all aspects of the question * Is clearly organized and well-written * Few mechanical or factual errors |
| 21-30 | * Contains a thesis that addresses some aspects of the question * Uses some documents effectively and correctly cites info * Supports thesis with some outside information * Has some analysis of some aspects of the questions * Has adequate organization and writing * May contain some factual errors that do not seriously detract from the essay |
| 11-20 | * Contains a limited, confused, and/or poorly developed thesis * Takes descriptive rather than analytical approach to the question * Quotes or briefly cites some documents sometimes citing correctly * Contains little outside information, or information that is generally inaccurate or irrelevant * Has major organizational problems * May contain major factual errors |
| 0-10 | * Confused and/or poorly developed introductory paragraph; no thesis or a thesis that does not address the question * Exhibits inadequate or inaccurate understanding of the question * Contains little or no understanding of the documents or ignores them completely, no citations * Is so poorly written or organized, that it inhibits understanding * Contains numerous mechanical and factual errors -- both major and minor |