

# Write: Signature Assignment

✓ Published

In accordance with the learning outcomes we have compiled a list of potential signature assignments with roughly the weight of a final exam. The signature assignment will cover the readings for the entire semester, and should include a discussion of films and TV relevant to the question. **Each student will pick one of the following topic questions as their signature assignment.**

1. This assignment specifically asks students get out of their “comfort zone.” Students will find a *foreign film* with a political dimension from a country with which they have no personal connection. Students will be expected to 1) provide a discussion of the socio-political context that the film is operating in or commenting on and 2) compose a review or evaluation of the film. Students will present this review to their peers as a group presentation. Instructors will provide students with [a list of foreign, notable and award-winning films to choose from](#) (or, students may choose their own film with instructor approval). The aim here is for students to choose notable films about topics and cultures they are unfamiliar with and then share and evaluate those films with their colleagues. **Groups no larger than 3 students. Presentation 15 minutes, maximum.**
2. Compose an essay in which you identify at least 3 films that you contend had a profound impact on American political culture. What was the historical and political context of these films? How were they received when they were released? What was their effect? Was it immediate or did it occur later? These should all be films that you feel moved the needle on public opinion or came to define an issue, or even an era (think about the *Dr. Strangelove* conversation at the beginning of the semester).
3. Compose an essay in which you discuss the ways that changing conceptions of citizenship have influenced the levels and types of political and social involvement in the United States. Why? What are the consequences for understanding the activities of citizens and the conduct of public affairs (elections, governing)? Integrate specific ideas from readings and class discussions wherever possible as evidence to support your answer.
4. The Salt Lake City League of Women Voters is planning its annual independent film festival. One goal is to host an academic panel of important political films of the last twenty years. Your expertise as an insightful film critic is well known and **you are invited to nominate 10 films, rank ordered, released since 2007, with a one page description for each**, of why you think each should be seen by all informed citizens, to be presented as an academic panel before the class, and you can enlist a couple classmates to serve as fellow panelists.
5. Compose an essay in which you discuss how the meaning and practice of citizenship has differed for traditionally politically disadvantaged groups (such as racial or ethnic minorities, women, etc.) than for politically and social dominant groups? To what extent do politically disadvantaged groups practice citizenship in similar or different ways than politically dominant groups? How and why has this changed over time? What have been the consequences of these changes on American

society? Integrate specific ideas from readings and class discussions wherever possible as evidence to support your answer.

**Essays should be double-spaced. 12-point Times New Roman throughout. Cite using your preferred methodology (e.g. APA, MLA,. Chicago). ~5-8 pages/1250-2000 words.**

**Submit presentations as PowerPoint or Google Slides (with voiceover if possible).**

**Points** 100

**Submitting** a file upload

<b>Due</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Available from</b>	<b>Until</b>
Apr 19	Everyone	-	-