

Group Assignments - August 24 & 25, 2010

The Island & The Policymaking System

Please do not write on this sheet. It is a class set. Thanks!

Use one sheet to record the responses from the group. Please be sure to include all members in your deliberation! If your group cannot come to a consensus, it is permissible to list the different views.

Island - The State of Nature

1. Do you have rights the minute you step on the island? If so, where did they come from? If not, can you secure them? How?
2. List problems that you anticipate during the first week?
3. What will the Class of 2011 do to solve these problems? Be specific.
4. Predict who will be in charge, if anyone. Why?

The Policymaking System

Use one current event from those submitted by your group's members to answer these questions.

1. Briefly explain the problem.
2. Who is concerned? Describe the group of people.
3. Evaluate what each linkage institution is doing to address the issue.
4. To your knowledge, is Congress involved with the issue? How?
5. To your knowledge, has the president taken a position on the problem? What is it?
6. To your knowledge, have the federal courts ruled on a matter related to the problem? What was (were) the ruling(s)?
7. What department of the bureaucracy is related to the problem? Have they acted upon the problem?
8. What are the current policies related to the problem, if any?
9. What does your group predict will happen next with the problem?
10. Optional - What are the individual opinions of your members regarding the problem?