

POSITION PAPER FORMAT

You will periodically be assigned position papers on topics of relevance to our current area of study. Dates/deadlines are indicated on your syllabus; readings will be provided in class.

Readings are taken from *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Political Issues* by George McKenna and Stanley Feingold, 12th edition (2001) and 15th edition (2008), published by McGraw-Hill.

Position papers are to be written in outline form using the headings indicated below. Be sure to write in complete sentences and support your opinions. Responses will be scored out of **50 points** and will be included in the Class Assignments category of your grade. Grading will reflect the completeness and depth of your answers. Writing mechanics and grammar will also be reflected in your score. All responses must be typed and single-spaced.

Outline format:

- I. Title of issue
- II. “Yes” stance author
 - A. Summary of author’s position
 - B. Reaction to author’s position with supporting statements (do not use 1st person)
- III. “No” stance author
 - A. Summary of author’s position
 - B. Reaction to author’s position with supporting statements (do not use 1st person)
- IV. YES or NO
Your reaction to the reading and your own thoughts on the issue (do not use 1st person)