Federalism Essay

For your essay, describe the American federalism and how it works. Where are the powers of each level of government derived? How has American federalism changed since the ratification of our Constitution? Considering this change throughout U.S. history, predict what the federal relationship between the states and the national government will be in the near future.

The following are helpful hints of what students have included in the past that you should not.

DO NOT include the following in your essay:

- Paste your writing into the Comment field/window.
- A discussion of checks and balances among the U.S. government branches in your essay. Also, Checks and balances between the national or subnational branches is not federalism! Checks and balances among the state branches is not federalism as well. U.S. Federalism, in its original intent, is a sharing (or not) of particular powers between two separate entities.
- Definitions of or discussions about unitary or confederate systems of government.
- Only a history of federalism in your essay such as a discussion about cooperative federalism, new federalism, etc.
- A passage from a dictionary with the definition that federalism was a political party. It was, but the Federalist Party is not federalism.
- Declare that the subnational governments (states) are given their powers by the national government. The thirteen states existed before the Constitution, had their own constitutions (Madison studied them before he wrote the Constitution), and ratified the Constitution to create the national government.
- A quotation from a dictionary about federalism itself.
- Informal writing
- **Plagiarized work. Yes, I'm aware of Course Hero, Quizlet, and the like and I'm sure this prompt or some like it is out there, but don't do it. It's not worth it. Read, take notes, and write.**

Do include the following in your essay:

- MLA formatting (read the Writing Help and MLA example paper documents attached to the assignment upload page)
- A definition of federalism in your own words. I know what federalism is. Being able to describe federalism to me shows me you understand the concept.
- A discussion on how federalism operates such as particular powers for a level of government. Give plenty of examples. Figure 3.3 in your textbook is a great source (as well as the chapter, of course).
- A discussion of how federalism has changed. Give plenty of examples. For this part, consult your textbook about the different types of federalism we've seen in the history of the U.S. Make sure to provide examples of each (go beyond just giving definitions of the different types of federalism).
- A Works Cited page ON ITS OWN PAGE BUT IN THE SAME DOCUMENT (hit page break) in MLA formatting. (read the Writing Help and MLA example paper documents attached to the assignment upload page)

- Copious In-text citations in MLA formatting. (you will need an in-text citation for anything that is not an original thought and that you got from another source).

Your essay must include your name, date, and title (of your choosing). It must be typed in Times New Roman font size 12 with default margins and double spaced. It must be in MLA format (see the Writing Help document). You must have in-text citations and a Works Cited page.

An essay comprises an introduction paragraph, at least three body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph. It is not one or two giant paragraphs. I will deduct 20 points if you do not write your paper in an essay format. Every semester I have students who do this. Don't be one of them, please.

Your essay must be 700 words. It can be longer if needed.

Do not copy the text of your document and submit it into the comment window/field. Students who do that will receive a zero and late points apply if a document is submitted as it should be after the deadline.

The word count does not include quotes or your citations.

See the syllabus on what types of documents Blackboard accepts and make sure your paper submitted properly and that you submitted it to the correct assignment upload page.

Avoiding Plagiarism:

See the videos I posted in the assignment folder as well as the Help Folder located on the Information Page. Contact me with any questions about this assignment if you have them.