

PART 1 **write one (1) essay from your choice of the following three questions**
(Suggested length: 3 – 5 pages)

1. Assuming you were a counselor to a new president, what would you tell them about the nature of presidential power and authority, and what advice would you give them in order to be an effective U.S. President?
2. What factors influence the decisions that Supreme Court Justices make? Based on your depiction of the judicial decision-making process, do you think the Supreme Court can be an effective institution of democracy and an agent of social change in a Madisonian Democratic system?
3. The political news media is an important part of the American democratic process. Is it an effective and independent watchdog, or a tamed lapdog? Write an essay that answers the question, in which you describe the competing models of the political news media. Which do you think is the most persuasive model of the political news media in the U.S.? Explain your answer.