**Formal Assessment Requirements - Texas Policy Paper**

**Introduction**

This activity is an opportunity for you to closely examine a contemporary policy issue between the state of Texas and the United States federal government. Over its history, the Texas government has had many conflicts with the national government as part of the dynamics under a federal system of governance (federalism).

Completing this activity is a mandatory component of this course. It serves as the standard course assessment for all GOVT 2306 students at Brookhaven College. *Failure to submit and complete this project in its entirety will result in a grade of F for the course*.

There are four steps to completing this project:

**Step 1 – Identifying the Issue**

The purpose of the paper is to identify and address a federal issue between the US government and Texas state government. This requires examining the history, application and effectiveness of laws at both levels.

Choose one of the following topics:

         Infrastructure development and funding

         Disaster management and funding

         Federal oversight of special education in Texas

         Environmental policy and air pollution control permitting

         Environmental policy and deep-water drilling

         Unaccompanied migrant children in state shelters

         Effects of redistricting on minority voter turnout in Texas

         Death penalty and intellectual disabilities

         Security of state elections from foreign interference

**Step 2 - Gathering Sources**

Conduct research to locate **three academic journal articles** (aka: peer-reviewed or scholarly sources) that specifically address the policy issues that you selected and meet the following criteria:

         **The articles must be no more than ten (10) years old.**

         **The article must have more than five (5) pages of actual content** (without graphs, charts, footnotes, citations, etc.).