

POSC 103 American National Government
Dr. McTague

Directions: Political Engagement and Reflection Assignment 2: Interaction with Target Population

Assignment Due Date: 11/24

Worth: 10% of final grade

Overview: As noted in the syllabus, you must have an experiential interaction with the "target population" you have chosen to research for the semester and compose a 3-5 page reflection that connects your experience to the theory from the Schneider and Ingram article that is your assigned reading on 9/10. Once you have had your experience interacting with representatives of your target population, your job is to assess how your experience fits in with the argument you are making in your research paper about how that population interacts with the political system.

In composing your essay, please incorporate responses to the following prompts, in no particular order. You should write in the style of a narrative or argument rather than literally numbering a response to each question. If you have thoughts or observations not related to the prompts below, please feel free to also incorporate those observations into your reflection.

1. Describe your interaction with your chosen target population. With whom did you meet? Where did you meet them? Use examples to illustrate your observations.
2. What did you learn about how your target population that you did not know before? What did you learn about the target population's place in society? What did you learn about their interactions with government and the broader political system?
3. Identify at least one specific concept (you may discuss more than one) from the Schneider & Ingram article that you are able to connect to your experience interacting with your target population. In particular, did your experience confirm or contradict what you would have expected beforehand? How did your interaction affect the argument you are making in your research paper?