



## Bonus Opportunities for Govt 2301& 2302



Politics, n. A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles. ~ Ambrose Bierce in The Devil's Dictionary

"The essence of Government is power; and power, lodged as it must be in human hands, will ever be liable to abuse." --James Madison

A **maximum of 50 bonus opportunity points** is allowed for a semester. Please choose bonus ops throughout the semester. Please do not do all fifty points worth the last week of class. **The semester deadline for submitting bonus opportunities is the last class day before final exam week. Many bonus ops are related to the exam material and have earlier deadlines.**

**For all bonus opportunities copy and paste the bonus op with point value, etc. at the top of your bonus paper. Be sure to include documentary proof such as movie ticket stub, copy of the meeting program, meeting agenda, movie rental receipt, etc.) Items below are not available as bonus ops if they are chosen as Task assignments. The DEADLINE for the 50 bonus op points is Wednesday/Thursday, May 5/6, 2010**



 Don Finley, "[Anger over Arizona law unites May Day marchers](#)," *San Antonio Express-News*, May 1, 2010. (5 pts, 1p, due by DL)



Rovira: [Cinco de Mayo - A Texas or a Mexico Celebration?](#) *Rio Grande Guardian*, May 5, 2010. (5 pts, 1p, due by DL)



[Cleanup of Gulf oil spill complicated by rough sea](#), *Washington Post*, April 30, 2010. (10 pts, 2p, DL)



[Should abortion be legal?](#) (10 pts, 2 p., DL)

Since the Jan. 22, 1973 US Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade* through 2005, more than 45 million legal abortions have been performed in the United States. One out of five pregnancies end in abortion, and 40% of all women have an abortion by the age of 45. "Pro-life" proponents generally believe abortion is immoral because personhood begins at conception, and therefore abortion kills innocent human beings. "Pro-choice" advocates contend that a woman's right to control her pregnancy outweighs any right claimed for an embryo or fetus. ProCon.org's newest website explores the pros and cons in this debate.



**Illegal Immigration: Should state or local governments enforce federal immigration laws? (10 pts, 2p, due by DL)**

Read pro and con arguments by Arizona Governor Janice Brewer, MALDEF President Thomas A. Saner, police chief associations, US congressional representatives, advocacy groups, and others.



**New Oklahoma abortion law among toughest in U.S. (5 pts, write 1p., due by DL)**

07:47 AM CDT on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 from WIRE REPORTS The Associated Press



**Texas lawmaker to introduce immigration bill similar to Arizona law**

11:42 AM CDT on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 Associated Press (5 pts, write 1p, due by DL)

- CAPITAL JOURNAL
- APRIL 27, 2010



**Gerald F. Seib, 'I'm America. I'm an Addict.' WSJ (5pts, write 1p, due by DL)**



**WSJ.Com: Arizona's Immigration Frustration (5 pts, write 1page, DL)**

The new state law is the result of a failed national policy.



**Earth Day McKinney Public Events: (15 points, 3 pages, due within one week of event per event)**

CELEBRATE

40<sup>TH</sup>

earth day

<p><b>Friday, April 23 • 7:30 p.m.</b></p> <p>Fabien Cousteau, grandson of Jacques Cousteau, will speak on "One Water One People"</p> <p>Boyd High School - 600 North Lake Forest Drive</p>	<p><b>Saturday, April 24 • 9 a.m.-5 p.m.</b></p> <p>4th Annual Green Living Family Festival at the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary</p>
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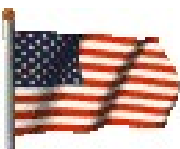


## Quiz: Satisfaction with Government Quiz (10 points, write two pages, due by DL)

### How Satisfied Are You?

#### Government Satisfaction Quiz

Take our new 11-question quiz and find out how your government satisfaction score compares with that of the average American, as well as with the scores of many demographic and political groups. [Take the quiz](#)



## Quiz: Take the Climate Quiz (10 points, write 1 page about your results, due by DL)

Do you have two minutes to take a small but meaningful step towards fighting climate change?

See what you know about one of the most pressing issues of our time and \$2 will be donated toward the purchase of solar flashlights for Haitians living in camps, providing them with energy-efficient light.

[Please take the Climate Quiz today, and take initiative to fight climate change.](#)

A banner for the Climate Quiz. On the left, a green button says "TAKE THE CLIMATE QUIZ" and below it, "— and you'll help send solar flashlights to Haiti." In the center is a photo of three children looking at a solar flashlight. On the right, text says "Make a difference for the people of Haiti by taking the Clinton Foundation's quiz."

Learn surprising uses for trash; which city is retrofitting one of its most famous landmarks; and what small urban change can reduce energy costs by up to 90 percent.

Find out how much you know about one of our planet's greatest challenges and the solutions that are making a real difference. Plus, you'll feel great knowing that you've helped send solar flashlights to people living in Haiti's camps.

Our goal is for 100,000 people to take the quiz, so we can send 20,000 flashlights to Haiti.

[Will you join the fight against climate change — and help the people of Haiti?](#)

With Earth Day fast approaching, there couldn't be a better time to get involved in fighting climate change and improving the lives of others.

Sincerely,

Bruce R. Lindsey  
Chief Executive Officer  
William J. Clinton Foundation



**Television program: KERA 13 "Living with the Trinity"** (10 points, write two pages, due by DL)

**LIVING WITH THE TRINITY**

In connection with the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, this original KERA documentary explores an important environmental battle over plans to transform the Trinity River into a barge canal from North Texas to the Gulf of Mexico. It was a time when ordinary citizens challenged some of the most powerful interests in Texas ... and won.

A film by Rob Tranchin.



- Tuesday, April 20 at 8:00 p.m. on KERA-TV
- Wednesday, April 21 at 10:00 p.m. on KERA-TV



**Public Forum: Candidates for College College & Plano ISD** (15 points, write three pages, due by Exam 2)

Please join us for an informative free public forum

Meet the Candidates for

**Collin College and Plano ISD**

Saturday, April 10, 2010

Schimelpfenig Library  
5024 Custer Road, Plano 75023

**Session 1: 10:30-11:15 a.m.**  
**Candidates for Collin College**

- Place 1: David Hammel, Nancy Wurzman
- Place 3: Larry Wainwright, Earnest R. Burke

**Session 2: 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**  
**Candidates for Plano ISD**

- Place 1: Bart Ridley, Robert Canright, Tammy Richards
- Place 2: Paul P. Kaminsky, Raj Menon, Carrolyn Moebius
- Place 3: Bret Cullers, Nancy Humphrey



Sponsored by:  
League of Women Voters  
of Plano/Collin County

Voters Guides available on our website April 16, 2010:  
All contested races for Collin College Board of Trustees  
and City Council and ISD in Allen, Frisco, McKinney and Plano



**Public Meeting: McKinney Tea Party (15 points, write three pages, due by Exam 2)**

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**Join the McKinney Tea Party Patriots on April 5th at 7pm Collin Community College  
2200 W. University Drive  
McKinney, TX 75070**

State Representative Ken Paxton will be speaking about the "Texas Health Freedom Act" legislation he is currently drafting and will bring us current on the status of the lawsuit filed by our Attorney General, Greg Abbott.



McKinney Tea Party Meeting  
**Monday, April 5, 2010 7:00pm**

Speaker: State House Representative Ken Paxton  
<http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist70/paxton.php>



Television program: "[Fareed Zakaria GPS](http://www.fareedzakaria.com/)," Sundays at 10 am ET/PT on CNN (5 bonus points, write one page, due by Exam 2) <http://www.fareedzakaria.com/>



**Public Forum: LWV Meet the Candidates (15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week of event)**

Please join us for an informative free public forum

**Meet the Candidates for the**

# Primary Runoff Election

Wednesday, March 31, 2010  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Maribelle M. Davis Library  
7501-B Independence Parkway, Plano 75025

## Candidates (all Republicans):

Session 1, 6:30-7:15 p.m.

### District Judge, 219<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

Angela Tucker  
Scott J. Becker

### District Clerk

Alma Hays  
Patricia Wysong Crigger

Session 2, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

### Judge, County Court at Law No. 3

Lance S. Baxter  
Stewart Matthews

### Judge, County Court at Law No. 4

David Rippe  
Matthew Goeller

### Judge, County Court at Law No. 6

Terri Green  
Jay Bender



Sponsored by:  
League of Women Voters  
of Plano/Collin County

Voters Guide available at [www.lwvcollin](http://www.lwvcollin)  
Early voting April 5-9, 2010

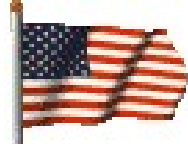
Election Day Tuesday, April 13, 2010



Student Organization Event: Government & You: Your Role in the Political Process  
(15 points, write 3 pages, due by Exam 2)

Phi Theta Kappa will be holding an event on April 1st called Government and You: Your Role in the Political Process. We have confirmed that State Rep. Jerry Madden and Plano Mayor, Phil Dyer, will be speaking at this event and it will be a great opportunity for students to meet these political figures.

The purpose of this event is to inform students about being more involved in the political process and the importance of their involvement. We are going to help students figure out how to get involved on multiple levels of the process: student level, city level, and state. There will also be a forum at the end for questions. It will be held at the Collin Higher Education Center (CHEC) on **April 1st at 5:15 p.m in Board Room 139.**



Public Event: **April 22, 7 p.m.**, Spring Creek Campus Conference Center – Public Presentation

**(15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week of event)**

James R. Brown, Associate Director of Strategic Planning, Planning and analysis Branch, Water Quality Protection Division for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 will present *Innovation in Environmental Sustainability*. Topics will include Water Crisis in North Texas: Efficiency and Conservation, Climate Clean Energy, Waste-to-Energy, Air Quality Challenges, and Partnership Programs. Student roundtables and technical presentations will be held at 9:30-10:45 a.m. at the Central Park Campus Conference Center and 1-2:15 p.m. at the Preston Ridge Campus Event Center



**Public Event: Fabien Cousteau Coming to Central Park Campus**



**(15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week of event)**

Environmental activist, researcher, and filmmaker Fabien Cousteau, grandson of the famed Jacques-Yves Cousteau, will be discussing today's environmental issues at 1 p.m. on **Friday, April 23**, at the Central Park Campus Conference Center. The lecture is in honor of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day and is sponsored by Collin College, the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary, and the City of McKinney. Contact Professor Brett Burkett at x6510 or [bburkett@collin.edu](mailto:bburkett@collin.edu) for more information

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Student Organizations sponsored Public Forum: Collin College Board of Trustees Candidate Forum ( 15 points, write three pages, due within one week of the event)

## **Phi Theta Kappa and The Student Government Association present...**

### **The Board of Trustees Candidate Forum**

This forum provides a venue for candidates for the Board of Trustees to articulate their platforms and for voters to obtain information on which they can cast an informed vote.

#### **Candidates and their position:**

##### **Place 1**

Nancy Wurzman  
David Hammel

##### **Place 2**

Jenny McCall

##### **Place 3**

Larry Wainwright  
Earnest R. Burke

### **Spring Creek Campus Conference Center**

**Tuesday, April 6, 2010**

**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

#### **Business attire suggested**

Donald Weasenforth, Professor  
English as a Second Language  
Phi Theta Kappa Advisor  
Collin County Community College District  
2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-881-5970  
972-881-5923 fax  
dweasenforth@collin.edu  
<http://iws.collin.edu/dweasenforth>

"The foundation of every state is the education of its youth."  
– Diogenes Laertius



## Public Event: Visit of the C-SPAN Civics Bus (15 points, write 3 pages, due by Exam 2)



The Civics Bus ([www.c-span.org/bus](http://www.c-span.org/bus)) is a mobile production studio that travels 11 months of the year. It is also a mobile classroom used to educate students and communities about civic education and all of C-SPAN's resources. We'd be delighted to travel to **Collin's Spring Creek campus on Thursday, March 25, from 1-3 p.m.** and speak with your students about internship opportunities, free C-SPAN resources for history, civics, and education projects, and our coverage of federal government.

During the course of our visit we'll open the bus to students, professors, and the public for tours. We'd also like to reach out to professors of Communications, Media Technology, Government, and Education courses. This will be a perfect fit for their students. The Civics Bus also serves as a mobile production studio and can provide an opportunity for a local author interview with one of your published professors for Book TV ([www.booktv.org](http://www.booktv.org)). BookTV is our non-fiction book programming that airs on weekends and features authors who discuss their books on history, politics and/or public affairs.

WELCOME ABOARD C-SPAN'S CIVICS BUS!

C-SPAN Buses are visiting communities around the country to...

- inform voters · empower teachers · enrich civics education



Students at the University of Texas at Brownsville gather outside the Bus eager to learn more about C-SPAN.

[ \*\*\* ]

For more information or any questions, please feel free to visit our website at [www.c-span.org](http://www.c-span.org) or contact me directly at (202) 626-4610.



## Student Organization Event: "Get On Board With The Board Meet And Greet" (15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week of event)

Phi Theta Kappa has partnered with Student Government Association (SGA) and would like to extend an invitation to everyone to "Get On Board With The Board Meet And Greet" event.

Ever wondered who are the Board of Trustees and what they do for Collin? At this event you will be able to have the opportunity to meet the Collin College Board of Trustees members as well as take part in a informative Q & A session. For further information/RSVP to [ptk@collin.edu](mailto:ptk@collin.edu).

**Date:** **Tuesday, March 23rd**

**Time:** 4:15p - 5:30p

**Location:** Collin Higher Education Center - Board Room 139

Remember there are limited seats available to make your reservations and take advantage of this elite opportunity. RSVP Today! This is one of the first times the Board of Trustees of Collin College will be doing an event solely with student organizations.

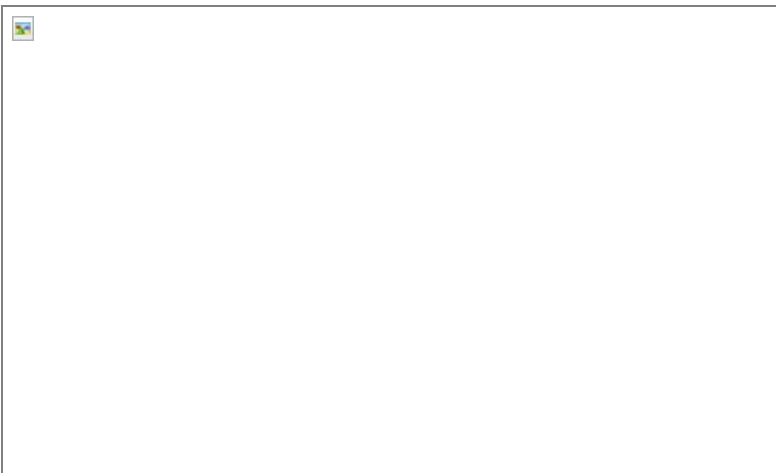


Television program/Online Video: PBS [NOW](#) (10 points, write two pages, due within one week)



KERA  
CHANNEL 13.1[D]

Sunday, February 28, 12:30pm  
The Obama administration's protection of endangered species.



Television program/Online Video: PBS [Bill Moyers Journal](#) Friday, February 26, 2010 (10 points, write two pages, due within one week)

NEWSLETTER - Friday, February 26, 2010

*"We're not advocating any recognition of a new right. The right to marry is in the Constitution. The Supreme Court's recognized that over and over again. We're talking about whether two individuals should be treated equally, under the equal protection clause of the Constitution."*

- Ted Olson

This week on *BILL MOYERS JOURNAL* ([check local listings](#))

- They battled it out as legal adversaries in 2000 before the Supreme Court in *Bush v. Gore*. But what's got these two prominent lawyers - one conservative and one liberal - working together in court now? **Theodore Olson**, one of the nation's premier appellate and United States Supreme Court advocates and **David Boies**, one of the country's preeminent trial lawyers, argued opposite sides for the fate of the 2000 election but are now teamed up in the fight to overturn California's Proposition 8 ballot measure outlawing same-sex marriage. The unexpected pair discusses why they've taken on the hot-button issue - even as some gay rights activists objected - and why they don't believe that same-sex marriage is a right or left issue.

- And, Bill Moyers remembers poet Lucille Clifton.



**Newspaper columnist: Leon Pitts, Jr.** (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)

- [Facts no longer mean what they once did](#)

I got an email the other day that depressed me.

It concerned a piece I recently did that mentioned Henry Johnson, who was awarded the French Croix de Guerre in World War I for singlehandedly fighting off a company of Germans (some accounts say there were 14, some say almost 30, the ones I find most authoritative say there were about two dozen) who threatened to overrun his post. Johnson managed this despite the fact that he was only 5'4" and 130 pounds, despite the fact that his gun had jammed, despite the fact that he was wounded 21 times.



By **MICHAEL C. DORF** [Nullification, Secession, and Guns Show Constitutional Meaning is Never Settled](#)  
Findlaw.com, February 24, 2010 (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 1)



Magazine article: Phillip Barry C. Lynn & Phillip Longman, "[Who Broke America's Jobs Machine?](#),"  
*Washington Monthly*, March/April 2010. (10 points, write two pages, due by DL)



Political document: [The Mount Vernon Statement](#), February 17, 2010 (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 1)



Television program: Frontline: Behind Taliban Lines (10 points, write two pages, due within one week of viewing)



**Watch FRONTLINE** [The Warning](#) Tuesday, Feb. 16 9 pm KERA Ch. 13 (15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week)

"We didn't truly know the dangers of the market, because it was a dark market," says [Brooksley Born](#), the head of an obscure federal regulatory agency -- the Commodity Futures Trading Commission [CFTC] -- who not only warned of the potential for economic meltdown in the late 1990s, but also tried to convince the country's key economic powerbrokers to take actions that could have helped avert the crisis. "They were totally opposed to it," Born says. "That puzzled me. What was it that was in this market that had to be hidden?" ([more »](#))



(20 points, write four pages, due within one week of event, This event has a fee charge.)

### **Tenth Amendment Town Hall hosted by Texas Conservative Coalition (TCC)**

This Town Hall meeting will serve as a forum to explore solutions both for restoring the constitutional rights of the State of Texas and its people and to rolling back the growing power and influence of the federal government.

**When: Monday, Feb. 15, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

**Where: Plano Centre (2000 East Spring Creek Parkway)**

<http://www.txcc.org/content/tenth-amendment-town-hall>.

**AUSTIN**--This Monday, February 15, 2010, **State Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-District 8**, will be participating in the **Tenth Amendment Town Hall** hosted by Texas Conservative Coalition (TCC). The Senator will be appearing with the keynote speaker **Judge Andrew Napolitano** (author and Fox News Contributor), as well as nationally-prominent constitutional scholars and other conservative state legislators.



### ***The Face of Homelessness***

**An Informational Panel Presentation on Homelessness in Collin County (15 points, write three pages, due within one week of event)**

You are cordially invited to attend the following Special Event at Collin College.

**Wednesday  
February 10, 2010  
7 – 9:30 p.m.  
Spring Creek Campus Conference Center  
2800 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano**

***Please bring one easy-to-open or pop-top non-perishable food item to the event. Food contributions will benefit areas shelters.***

**This informational panel presentation will include guests from:**

**CITY House  
City of Plano  
City of Plano Police Department  
Collin County Health Department  
Collin County Homeless Coalition  
Family Promise of Collin County  
Geriatric Wellness Center  
Hope's Door  
Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance  
Plano ISD  
Samaritan Inn**

**Event is free and open to the public.**

For more information, contact:  
Collin College  
Center for Scholarly and Civic Engagement  
2800 Spring Creek Parkway, F102  
Plano, Texas

972.881.5900



**Public Forum: Collin County Healthcare Candidate Forum (15 points, write three pages, due within one week of event)**

**HEALTHCARE  
COMMITTEE**

**COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS NEWS RELEASE**

**HCCC holds Healthcare Candidate Forum February 16 at 7:00pm**

**Collin College - Spring Creek Campus - Room C104**

**Collin County Commissioner Court Candidates to be asked Healthcare Questions**

On **February 16**, the Healthcare Committee of Collin County (HCCC) will hold its Healthcare Candidate Forum for the Collin County Commissioners Court at the Spring Creek Campus of Collin College Room C104. The Candidate Forum will start at 7:00pm.

The public is invited. Please invite your friends and associates. Questions will be healthcare related.

Questions may be submitted by e-mailing them

**Participating candidates:**

**Collin County Judge**

David M. Smith  
John Muns

**Collin County Commissioner Precinct 2 x**

Jerry Hoagland (I)  
Cheryl Williams  
Karl Voigtsberger  
Ricardo Koster

**Collin County Commissioner Precinct 4**

Kathy Ward (I)  
J. Duncan Webb IV

We encourage all members and friends to attend and get to know the perspective on Healthcare/Mental Healthcare issues of those that may be in leadership for the next four years. The County Commissioners are responsible for Indigent Healthcare and Mental Healthcare in Collin County.

**Additional information:**

Marge Langteau - 214.505.9586 - [margelangteau@verizon.net](mailto:margelangteau@verizon.net)  
Bob Martin - 972.365.6923 - [bob.martin@earthlink.net](mailto:bob.martin@earthlink.net)

**Healthcare Committee of Collin County**

E-mail: [collinhealthcare@earthlink.net](mailto:collinhealthcare@earthlink.net)  
Web site: [www.collinhealthcare.org](http://www.collinhealthcare.org)



**Texas Primary Election Gubernatorial Debates 2010** (15 points, write three pages, credit for one Democratic & one Republican debate, due by Primary Election day 2010)

**Republican Debates: The Belo Debate January 29, 2010** [Part I](#), [Part II](#), [Part III](#), [Part IV](#); **The Texas Debates** [January 14, 2010](#)

**Democratic Debate: The Texas Debates** [February 8, 2010](#)



**Public Film Screening: Human Rights** (15 points, write three pages, due within one week of event)

**UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**



**2/18  
6:00 PM**

**Film Screening: *Pray the Devil Back to Hell***  
SMU Human Rights Education Program

*Pray the Devil Back to Hell* is the riveting, true story of the unsung heroines of Liberia, who, armed only with white t-shirts and courage, brought down a dictator and ended a long, brutal war... [learn more](#)



**Public Meeting: League of Women Voters - Richardson: Voting Responsibly for Judicial Candidates** (15 points, write three pages, due within one week)

The League of Women Voters of Richardson will hold a public meeting  
February 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

in the Richardson Room of the Richardson Civic Center  
on the topic of \_\_\_\_\_

## Voting Responsibly for Judicial Candidates

Speakers for the evening will be

**Dr. Anthony Champagne**  
Professor in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences  
at the University of Texas at Dallas,  
and  
**Keven Ann Willey**  
Vice President and Editorial Page Editor  
of the Dallas Morning News.

**Moderator will be Jeff Whittington**  
Senior Producer and Host,  
KERA 90.1 / KERA 13, KXT 91.7

The meeting is designed to help voters make informed decisions in judicial elections. Topics will include the history of the election of judges in Texas, considerations in evaluating judicial candidates, and methods used in other states to select judges. There will be a section of the program with written questions from the audience.

Our society rests firmly on the concept of a fair and knowledgeable judiciary, and thus it is crucial that judicial positions be filled by competent and impartial candidates. Voters are often overwhelmed by the long list of judicial offices on the ballot. The League's goal in presenting this program is to assist voters in making thoughtful and informed choices when they go to the polls.

The League of Women Voters is a multi-issue organization whose mission is to encourage active and informed participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The League never supports or opposes any party or candidate. Membership is open to everyone.



**Author appearance: The Texas Death Penalty (15 points, write three pages, due within one week)**

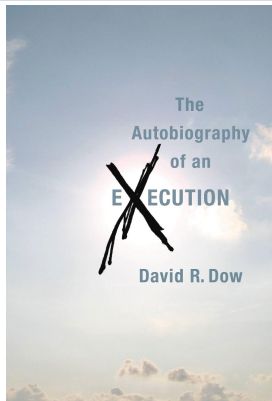
**Legacy Books | The Shops at Legacy North | 7300 Dallas Parkway at Legacy | Suite A120 | Plano | TX | 75024**

**& Wednesday 2/10 at 7 pm at Borders Books, Preston & Royal, Dallas, Texas**

### ***The Autobiography of an Execution***


**David R. Dow**


2/09 Tuesday at 7:00



Houston's David R. Dow has represented over 100 death row cases. Many of his clients have died. Most were guilty. Some might have been innocent. This is his personal story about justice, the death penalty, and a lawyer's life -- the chronicle of a life lived at paradoxical extremes: Witnessing executions and coming home to the loving embrace of his wife and son. Waging moral battles on behalf of people who have committed abhorrent crimes. Fighting for life in America's death penalty capital. Racing against time on behalf of clients who have no more time.



 **World Ideologies: What is socialism? (10 points, write two pages, due by Exam 1)**

 **World Ideologies: What is communism? (10 points, write two pages, due by Exam 1)**

 **World Ideologies: What is fascism? (10 points, write two pages, due by Exam 1)**

 **Political Parties: Why is there no competitive Socialist Party in the USA? (10 points, write two pages, due by Exam 2)**

 **Public Forum: League of Women Voters - Plano/Collin County **Meet the Candidates for Collin County Primary Elections****

Saturday, February 13, 2010 (15 points, write three pages, choose two sessions for credit, due within one week of event)

Christopher A. Parr Library

6200 Windhaven Parkway, Plano 75093

Session 1, 10:30-11:30 a.m. U.S. House of Representatives

Session 2, 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Texas Senate and House

Session 3, 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. Collin County Commissioners' Court

Session 4, 2:30 – 3:45 p.m. Collin County District Attorney, Clerk & Judges

Session 5, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Collin County Court at Law Judges & JPs

(see complete list of candidates on following page)

Sponsored by: League of Women Voters of Plano/Collin County

**Candidates invited to LWV Plano/Collin County Forum and Voters Guide:**

Office Candidate Party Attending?

US Representative, Dist. 3 Sam Johnson (I) Republican N

John Lingenfelder Democrat Y

Christopher Claytor Libertarian Y

Emma Elizabeth Berry Independent Y

US Representative, Dist. 4 Ralph Hall (I) Republican

Steve Clark Republican Y

John Cooper Republican Y

Lou Gigliotti Republican Y

Jerry Ray Hall Republican Y

Joshua Kowert Republican N

Valinda Hathcox Democrat Y

Jim Prindle Libertarian Y

Shane Shepard Independent Y

Nicholas Paul Nix Independent Y

State Senator, Dist. 8 Florence Shapiro (I) Republican Y

Ed Kless Libertarian Y

State Representative, Dist. 66 Mabrie Jackson Republican Y

Wayne Richard Republican Y

Van Taylor Republican Y

Josef Novak Libertarian Y

Eric Roberson Independent Y

Collin County Judge Keith Self (I) Republican Y

John Muns Republican Y

David Smith Democrat Y

Collin County Commissioner, Pct 2 Jerry Hoagland (I) Republican Y

Karl Voigtsberger Republican Y

Cheryl Williams Republican Y

Rick Koster Democrat Y

Collin County Commissioner, Pct 4 Kathy Ward (I) Republican Y

Duncan Webb Republican Y

Collin County District Attorney James Angelino Republican Y

Jeff Bray Republican Y

Greg Willis Republican Y

Rafael De La Garza Democrat Y

Collin County District Clerk Patricia Crigger Republican Y

Alma Hays Republican Y

Terrye Evans Republican Y

219th District Judge Scott Becker Republican Y

Angela Tucker Republican Y

Wendy McMillon Republican Y

296th District Judge John Roach Jr. (I) Republican Y

Keith Gore Republican Y

Collin County Court at Law #2 Jerry Lewis (I) Republican Y

Sharon Ramage Republican Y

Collin County Court at Law #3 Lance Baxter Republican Y

Stewart Matthews Republican Y

Barnett Walker, Jr. Republican Y

Sajeel Khaleel Democrat Y

Collin County Court at Law #4 Chrysti Bryant Republican Y

Linda Wynn Drain Republican Y

Matthew Goeller Republican Y

David Rippel Republican Y

Collin County Court at Law #6 Jay Bender Republican Y

Terri Green Republican Y

Don High Republican Y

Shawn Ismail Republican Y

Collin County JP, Pct 3, Place 2 John Payton (I) Republican Y

Rey Flores Democrat Y

Collin County JP, Pct 4 Mike Yarbrough (I) Republican Y

Kelley Adley Republican Y

Doug Reeves Republican Y

 ➔ **Online quiz: Public Knowledge Quiz (10 points, write two pages, due within one week of the event)**

**Take the Latest Quiz Online!**

We invite you to test your own News IQ by taking the latest interactive knowledge quiz now available on the Pew Research Center website. The short quiz includes the same questions that were included in a national poll. Participants will instantly learn how they did on the quiz in comparison with the general public as well as with people like them. To take the latest quiz, click on this link:


<http://pewresearch.org/politicalquiz/>

 ➔ **Television program: Frontline: [Digital Nation](#) February 2, 2010 (10 points, write two pages, due within one week of broadcast)**

 ➔ **Presidential Address: [Obama's first State of the Union Address](#) (15 points, write three pages, due within one week)**

 ➔ **Television program: State of the Union Address (15 points, write three pages, due within one week of the event)**

**Watch President Obama's State of the Union Address to the nation Wednesday evening, January 27, 2010. Also watch the Republican response after the speech.**

 ➔ **Public Meeting: Local Republican Judicial Candidates' Forum (15 points, write three pages, due within one week of the event)**

**North Collin County Republican Women & Collin County Republican Men Cordially Invite You To A Local Republican Judicial Candidates' Forum; Participating candidates from District Clerk, JP, County Court, District Court and DA races**

**Tuesday, January 26th**

**6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**Conference Center, Collin College -- McKinney Campus**

For additional information: JB Owen 972-754-2389 or owenfam5@grandecom.net



RISING PROPERTY VALUES FUEL DALLAS ISD'S FIRST 'ROBIN HOOD' PAYMENT (5 points, write one page, due by DL)

For the first time, Dallas taxpayers had to give some of their money to less-affluent school districts in 2008-09, part of Texas' share-the-wealth school finance system that critics and proponents say is out of whack. Some say the fact that Dallas schools had to pay the "Robin Hood" payment last school year is proof that the formula doesn't make sense. Nearly 90 percent of DISD schoolchildren are poor, and the school district has been struggling with deficits. For 2009-10, projections show that Dallas taxpayers will not have to send their money away.

Rising property values fuel Dallas ISD's first 'Robin Hood' payment | News for Dallas, Texas | Dallas Morning News | Breaking News for Dallas-Fort Worth | Dallas Morning News

<http://shar.es/a9EYL>



Title: WSJ.com - Opinion: Why the Health-Care Bills Are Unconstitutional ( 5 points, write one page, due by DL)

This article will be available to non-subscribers of the Online Journal for up to seven days after it is e-mailed.

Copy and paste the following into your Web browser to access the sent link:

<http://www.emailthis.clickability.com/et/emailThis?clickMap=viewThis&etMailToID=1978480050&pt=Y>



➔ **Televised Presidential Speech at West Point** (10 points, write two pages, due by DL): [Examining Obama's Afghan Speech](#) Watch the televised address.



➔ **Opinion column at *Slate*** (5 points, write one page, due by DL): [Confessions of an Uncertain Columnist My mixed feelings about the war in Afghanistan.](#) By Fred Kaplan Posted Monday, Nov. 30, 2009, at 12:50 PM ET



➔ **Television program/Streaming video: [The Card Game](#)** On air and online November 24, 2009 at 9:00pm (check local listings) **FRONTLINE series** (15 points, write 3 pages, due by DL)



➔ **Newspaper article: [Video Game Veterans and the New American Politics](#)** (5 points, write one page, due by DL) Peter W. Singer, Director, 21st Century Defense Initiative The Washington Examiner



➔ **The Collin College chapter of STAND is hosting a lecture entitled: *The Modern Day Holocaust: Comparing and Contrasting the Holocaust to Darfur.*** (15 points, write three pages, due by DL)

The speakers for this event are Collin President, Cary Israel and SMU History Professor, Dr. Bryan Rigg. The author of several books, Dr. Rigg's work has been featured in the New York Times and on programs such as NBC's Dateline. The lecture will be held on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> @ 11:30 AM in Conference Center Room AB at Spring Creek Campus.

We have a new student organization called STAND at Collin College. STAND is the student-led arm of the Genocide Intervention Network. As STAND members tried to recruit new members this semester, the most common question they were asked by our students was, "What is genocide?" -- We find that totally unacceptable and hope you do as well.



➔ **[Sarah Palin Appearance & Book Signing at Legacy Books](#)** 12/4, 11a.m. - 2 p.m. (10 points, write two pages, due at your Final) See ticket/book purchase requirements.



➔ **OUT Public Lecture: Homosexual Rights/Marriage & Human Rights Law** (15 points, write three pages, due within one week)

Talk offered by Dr. Dale Walker of the Humanities Department.

**Date: Thursday, November 19 6:30-8:30 pm in BB219 SCC**

**TOPIC:** "Are laws against homosexuals and homosexual marriage for the advancement of religion or do these laws serve a legitimate secular (public safety) purpose?"

**MY AIM:** In this lecture I examine certain laws and policies both in the U.S. and abroad to determine if they violate the basic human rights of gays. That is, if gay rights should fall under the Global Protection of Human Rights.

**ABOUT ME:** Dale Walker holds a Ph.D. in Moral & Political Philosophy from the University of Wales and a Law Degree (L.L.M) in Human Rights Law from the University of Leicester in the U.K.

**Sponsored by OUT at Collin College**



➔ [A One-Term President?: The Choice By Garry Wills](#) Volume 56, Number 19 · [December 3, 2009](#), The New York Review of Books ( 5 points, write one page, due by DL)



➔ [View a Mark Fiore political cartoon at www.markfiore.com.](#) (5 points, write one page, due by DL)



➔ [Television documentary film: A Death in Tehran](#) (10 points, write two pages, due within one week of viewing).

**Frontline**  
***A Death in Tehran***  
 Tuesday, November 17, 2009  
 9 - 10:00 pm

At the height of the protests following Iran's controversial presidential election this summer, a young woman named Neda Soltani was shot and killed on the streets of Tehran. Her death -- filmed on a cameraphone, then uploaded to the Web -- quickly became an international outrage, and Soltani became the face of a powerful movement that threatened the hardline government's hold on power. (CC, Stereo, HD)

<http://www.pbs.org/wqbh/pages/frontline/tehranbureau/deathintehran/>



➔ **College event: LULAC: The Dream Act Awareness Event** (10 points, write two pages, due by within one week of event) See the invitation below:

Dear Colleagues,  
Please announce to your classes and stop by the **SCC Conference Center section AB** tomorrow **November 11, 2009** from **7:15-8:15pm** for a **DREAM ACT awareness event sponsored by LULAC. This event is free and open to the public.**  
The Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, is a piece of proposed federal legislation that was introduced in the US Senate, and the US House of Representatives on March 26, 2009. If passed, the bill would provide undocumented students who graduate from high school, the opportunity to pursue higher education, fully contribute to the nation, and a pathway to obtain legal status. Please come join the conversation and listen to what our panelists have to say on the much debated topic.

Thank you,  
Lupita  
.....  
Lupita Murillo Tinnen  
Chair, Photography & Applied Graphic Design Technology Department  
League of United Latin American Citizens Advisor

Collin College  
2800 E. Spring Creek Pkwy.  
Plano, TX 75074  
972.578.5527



➔ **Mr. Smith Goes to Sesame Street** (10 points, write two pages, due by DL)

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➔ (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)

**TV, Radio Talkers Shaping Political Discourse in U.S.**

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➔ (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2) **Thomas Friedman, "The best allies money can buy," *New York Times*, November 4, 2009.**

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➔ **"Driving without English," *New York Times* editorial, November 3, 2009** (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)



**Public Meeting: League of Women Voters - Plano/Collin County, Texas: How does Collin County Government affect Healthcare in Collin County?** (15 points, write three pages, due by Exam 2)

**Tuesday, November 3, at 7:00 pm at Harrington Library, Plano , 1501 E. 18th St.**

If you are a resident of Collin County, you need to know what your county government offers in supporting citizen healthcare.

At our November 3 meeting learn: Collin County is responsible for Healthcare services for low income residents; it provides a number of other health services. Come and find out what is available and who qualifies for these services. We welcome **Collin County Commissioner, Kathy Ward**, as our special guest. Other guests include: Candy Blair, and Michelle Patrick, on County health services, H1N1 update.

Questions? Call Margaret Langteau ( )



➔ **Collin College Distinguished Speaker Series** (15 points, write three pages, due by Exam 2)


**Second Distinguished Speaker to present on innovation**

Jonah Lehrer, author of *How We Decide* and *Proust was a Neuroscientist*, will be the second presenter in Collin College's 2009-2010 Distinguished Speaker Series devoted to "Innovation."

Free and open to the public, Lehrer will present **"Innovation in Learning: How We Decide" at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center**, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. A question and answer session will follow.

Lehrer will also participate in roundtable discussion from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 11, at the Preston Ridge Campus Event Center, 9700 Wade Blvd. in Frisco.

Lehrer, a Columbia University graduate and former Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, is a contributing editor at *Wired*, *Scientific American Mind* and *National Public*


 (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)

OPINION October 29, 2009

### [Nicholas D. Kristof: More Schools, Not Troops](#)

By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

A compelling argument against more troops in Afghanistan rests on this trade-off: For the cost of an additional soldier stationed in Afghanistan for a year, nearly 20 schools could be built.

 (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)

#### AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: MAIRA KALMAN

*Maira Kalman is an award-winning illustrator. She lives in New York.*


#### E Pluribus Unum

The illustrator takes a walk through the bicameral, bipartisan halls of Congress.

[Read full post »](#)




  (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2) [States Pressed Into New Role on Medical Marijuana](#) By KIRK JOHNSON  
OCT. 26, 2009 <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/26/us/26marijuana.html>


 (5 points, write one page, due by Election Day) [Dallas Morning News Editorial: We recommend on state props, DISD](#)

11:10 AM CDT on Saturday, October 17, 2009



 (5 points, write one page, due by last due date)

[William McKenzie: Why the Dream Act makes sense for illegal immigrants - and our country](#) Dallas Morning News, 05:31 PM CDT on Monday, September 28, 2009

 (5 points, write one page, due by last due date)

# [A Wicked and Ignorant Award](#)

## How Barack Obama could



(5 points, write one page, due by last due date)

[William McKenzie: The Latino education challenge](#) Dallas Morning News 05:38 PM CDT on Monday, September 14, 2009



Sep 28, 2009 8:25 am US/Central

➔ [Texas Ranks 49th In Federal Stimulus Funding](#) (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)



➔ **Television & Online program:** [The National Parks: America's Best Idea](#): A Film by Ken Burns (15 points, write three pages, due within one week of viewing) Choose **one** of the programs below for credit:



### **The National Parks: America's Best Idea: The Scripture of Nature (1851-1890)**

On-Air & Online | **Sunday, September 27, 2009, 8 - 10:00 pm**

Filmmaker Ken Burns explores the history and splendor of, and the public passion for, America's national parks. In the first segment, the astonishing beauty of Yosemite Valley and the geyser wonderland of Yellowstone give birth to the radical idea of creating national parks for the enjoyment of everyone; John Muir becomes their eloquent defender. (CC, Stereo, HD, 1 year)  
<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>

### **The National Parks: America's Best Idea: The Last Refuge (1890-1915)**

On-Air & Online | **Monday, September 28, 2009, 8 - 10:30 pm**

A young president, Theodore Roosevelt, becomes one of the national parks' greatest champions; in Yellowstone, a magnificent species is rescued from extinction; and in Yosemite, John Muir fights the battle of his life to save a beautiful valley. (CC, Stereo, HD, 1 year)  
<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>

### **The National Parks: America's Best Idea: The Empire of Grandeur (1915-1919)**

On-Air & Online | **Tuesday, September 29, 2009, 8 - 10:00 pm**

In John Muir's absence, a new leader steps forward on behalf of America's remaining pristine places; a new federal agency is created to protect the parks; and in Arizona, a fight breaks out over the fate of the grandest canyon on earth. (CC, Stereo, HD, 1 year)  
<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>

**The National Parks: America's Best Idea: "Going Home" (1920-1933)**  
On-Air & Online | [Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 8 - 10:00 pm](#)

As America embraces the automobile, a Nebraska housewife searches for peace and inspiration in park after park, while a honeymoon couple seeks fame and adventure in the Grand Canyon, and the future of the Great Smoky Mountains becomes caught in a race with the lumbermen's saws. (CC, Stereo, HD, 1 year)  
<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>

**The National Parks: America's Best Idea: "Great Nature" (1933-1945)**  
On-Air & Online | [Thursday, October 1, 2009, 8 - 9:00pm](#)

In the midst of an economic catastrophe and then a world war, the national parks provide a source of much-needed jobs and then much-needed peace; the park idea changes to include new places and new ways of thinking; and in Wyoming, battle lines are drawn along the front of the Teton Range. (CC, Stereo, HD, 1 year)  
<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>

**The National Parks: America's Best Idea: "The Morning of Creation" (1946-1980)**  
On-Air & Online | [Friday, October 2, 2009, 8 - 10:00pm](#)

A stubborn iconoclast fights a lonely battle on behalf of a species nearly everyone hates; America's "Last Frontier" becomes a testing ground for the future of the park idea; and in unprecedented numbers, American families create unforgettable memories, passing on a love of the parks to the next generation. (CC, Stereo, HD, 1 year)  
<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>



➔ **Online NewsHour EXTRA: New FCC Rules Aim to Keep Internet Free and Open** (5 points, write one page, due by exam 2)

➔  
**Online**

**The government agency in charge of communication, the Federal Communications Commission, will push for "net neutrality" rules banning service discrimination from cable and Internet companies in an attempt to "be a smart cop on the beat preserving a free and open Internet."**

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/arts/july-dec09/internet\\_09-22.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/arts/july-dec09/internet_09-22.html)



➔ **Free Public Forum: Centralized Voting in Collin County** (15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week of event)

Please join us for an informative Free Public Forum:

**The change in voting sites for the Nov. 3, 2009, Texas Constitutional Amendment Election**

with Sharon Rowe *Collin County Elections Administrator*

**Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009 7:00 p.m. Plano Senior Center Lone Star C 401 W. 16<sup>th</sup>, Plano 75075**

**Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009 2:00 p.m. McKinney Senior Recreation Center 1400 S. College St. McKinney, TX 75069**

Sponsored by:

**League of Women Voters**

**of Plano/Collin County**

972-964-3335

[www.lwvcollin.org](http://www.lwvcollin.org)





➔ **Free Public Event: Governor Rick Perry** (15 points, write 3 pages, due within one week)

**Gov. Rick Perry will be at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center on Thursday, October 15th from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

This event is sponsored by an off-campus group. It is free and open to the public.

Gov. Perry will be speaking for about 20 minutes, then **answer questions via Twitter**.

All Collin College **political science** faculty and their classes, as well as faculty (and their classes) who are **engaged in service-learning** are especially invited to this event.

If time permits, faculty and their classes may have a photo opportunity with the Governor.



➔ (15 pts., write 3 pages, due within one week of event) **LWV of Richardson** offers an opportunity to hear Texas House District Representatives Angie Chen Button (112), Jerry Madden (67), and Carol Kent (102) speak on the 11 proposed amendments on **Tues., Oct. 20, 7 p.m.**, at the RISD Administration Building, 400 S. Greenville, Ave., Richardson 75081. For more information, visit <http://www.lwvrichardson.org/programs.html>.



➔ (15 pts., write 3 pages, due within one week of event) **AARP of Plano** will hear a presentation by Dr. Loren Miller, Professor of Political Science at Collin College, on **Wed., Oct. 28, 1 p.m.**, at the Plano Senior Center, 401 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Plano. LWVTX Voters Guides will be available at this meeting.



➔ **Texting While Driving Game** (5 points, write one page, due by last due date) **Published: July 19, 2009 New York Times**

### [Gauging Your Distraction](#)

New studies show that drivers overestimate their ability to multitask behind the wheel. This game measures how your reaction time is affected by external distractions. Regardless of your results, experts say, you should not attempt to text when driving.



➔ (15 points, write three pages, due by Exam 1)

## **People, Get Ready!**

**Emergency Preparedness for Home, Office and School**

**Thursday, September 24, 2009**

**11:30 am – 12:45 pm**

**Spring Creek Campus Conference Center**

## **Are you prepared? Could you survive an emergency?**

**Do you know what to do *before* an emergency?**

**Do you know what to do *during* an emergency?**

## Do you know what to do *after* an emergency?

The public is invited to join Collin College students, faculty and staff at an informational training workshop presented by the [City of Plano Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security](#), and the [Collin County Department of Homeland Security](#).


The workshop will present the hazards that trigger emergency situations including: weather, industrial chemicals, biological weapons and agents, nuclear/radiological dangers, hazardous materials, epidemics/pandemics, terrorism, and holiday emergencies.

The facilitators will also share strategies for preparedness, including a personal safety plan and caring for those with special needs. Sheltering-in-place and evacuation options will be explored. In addition, facilitators will share important resources and websites on preparedness.

Opportunities for volunteerism in emergency preparedness and response will be also presented.

Bring your sack lunch and join us for an interesting and intriguing look at "getting ready".

The event is free and open to the public.

➔  (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 1)

### [McChrystal: More Forces or 'Mission Failure'](#)

#### Top U.S. Commander For Afghan War Calls Next 12 Months Decisive

By [Bob Woodward](#)  
Washington Post Staff Writer  
Monday, September 21, 2009

➔  [Big-Name Showdown in Texas Has Already Started](#) (5 points, write one page, due by Exam 2)

