**Chapter Eight - Writing & Project Assignments**

**Writing**

1. Does the state have a moral obligation to provide health care or air conditioning for criminal offenders? Consider nonviolent as well as violent offenders in your answer.

CT, COMM

1. What problems might a poor person encounter defending themselves against criminal prosecution in the state of Texas?

CT, COMM, SR

1. What was the intention of Tort reform and what are the potential drawbacks or problems presented by the current version of the law?

CT, COMM, SR

**Projects**

1. Organize your class into groups of four or less. Ask students to examine prison conditions in three states outside of Texas and draw up a comparison. Next ask them to examine rehabilitation programs for inmates in those states and compare them to Texas. In their presentation they should rank Texas against the states they have investigate and make suggestions for any changes in the state prison system they believe to be warranted.

CT, COMM, PR, SR

1. Put students into teams of four or less. Each team should use your research library databases to gather information on the following issues.
   1. The number of children of convicts in the U.S. and Texas
   2. Impact of incarceration on children of convicts
   3. Government programs in Texas and other states to address these impacts

Once they have completed their research, they should design a program to address the impact of parental incarceration on the children of convicts in Texas.

CT, COMM, PR, SR