**Chapter Nine - Writing & Project Assignments**

**Writing**

1. Research reports of voter fraud in the state of Texas. Write a paper documenting the extent to which voter identification laws are justified by proof of voter fraud in Texas.

CT, COMM

1. Describe the evolution of African American voting rights in the state of Texas over the 19th and 20th centuries.

CT, COMM, SR

1. Why is voter turnout so low in Texas? Consider the various theories presented by the authors of the text and engage in your own research to form a theory of low voter turnout in Texas.

CT, COMM, SR

**Projects**

1. Present your class with a slate of recent candidates from an upcoming or previous party primary. Ask the students to declare themselves republican or democrat. Once they have declared their party affiliation and reviewed the existing candidates hold a closed primary. Tally the results. Next hold an open primary and tally the results. Discuss any differences that have emerged with the class as a whole.

CT, COMM, PR, SR

1. Put students in teams and charge them with investigating current voting registration issues and concerns in the state of Texas. At the end of their research they should do a class presentation detailing how one of the following groups is impacted by current voting registration and election procedures:
   * + African Americans
     + Recent transplants to the state of Texas
     + Women
     + Hispanics
     + Asian Americans

Their presentation should include a list of changes that they believe should be made to the existing procedures or an explanation as to why the existing procedures are working well.

CT, COMM, PR, SR