

## **POLSC120 – Introduction to Politics Mid-Term Research Paper – Spring 2006**

**Question: Compare and contrast the essential philosophical components of liberalism, conservatism, and Marxism. Of the three, which would you point to as being the dominant political and economic paradigm for our times and maybe the future and why? Has humanity, as Francis Fukayama suggested in 1992, reached the “end of history,” with democracy and capitalism as the political and economic paradigms by which we will organize ourselves? Why or why not? Be sure to include as much evidence as you can find to support your position.**

### **Sample Outline**

**(But feel free to design your outline any way you wish)**

**I. Introduction / Thesis Statement – a brief statement outlining your position and/or something relevant about this issue.**

**II. Body – this will be the bulk of the paper, made up of the data, proof, and evidence required to prove your thesis statement.**

- a. Readings, research, and notes on liberalism**
- b. Readings, research and notes on conservatism**
- c. Readings, research and notes on Marxism**

**III. Conclusion – based on the evidence you have gathered, your opinion about which of these theories is probably the most accurate for describing how the future of humanity will play out.**

**Extras:**

**1. Make sure to include footnotes *every time you use a statement or an idea from the readings that I have provided, or that you found in your own independent research.***

**2. “A” papers will be: a) fully documented and footnoted; b) a *minimum* of 7 – 10 pages in length; c) research *beyond* authors provided; and d) turned in *on time* (3-22-06).**