

How Congress Works assignment

Redman, *Dance of Legislation*; Hamilton, *How Congress Works*; Kaiser, *Act of Congress*

We are looking for evidence that you have absorbed important insights from the three books that offer very different perspectives on Congress. The essential book for the purposes of this assignment is Kaiser. The most inspiring book is Redman. Hamilton offers the strongest defense of Congress and an antidote to the critical perspective served up by Kaiser.

Answer three. The first two responses must be in essay form. Each must be no longer than one single-spaced page in length, so be sure to focus on the important lessons (feel free to use examples and reference page numbers). The last response can just be lists.

Choose either #1 or #2

1. The civics view of Congress compared to how things really work in Congress
2. How Congress has changed over time and why it has changed

Choose either #3 or #4

3. House-Senate differences (and not just procedural differences)
4. Voters: When do they matter and how do they matter?

#5 is mandatory

5. Top 5 strategy lessons for committee leaders (#1 is what you consider the most important lesson) and Top 3 strategy tips for opponents of a policy.