

Writing Assignment #3
National Government
Spring 2008

The Electoral College is often cited as one of the quirkiest aspects of the American Republic. Some see it as an anti-democratic element inserted by elites at the founding of the nation, while others see it as a failsafe provision ensuring that presidential candidates will not ignore the concerns and issues of small states and their citizens. Read the material on the Electoral College that is in the online course reserve at the library's website. For the purpose of this assignment, briefly outline the authors' arguments on the Electoral College. Then, explain your position. Do you think that the Electoral College should be abolished, thus allowing the popular vote to decide the president, or do you think that the Electoral College remains a protection for small states and their citizens against the demands of large states and urban areas? Why? This paper should be three or four pages in length.

**The reading material is from the Canon et al. *Faultlines* text.