The paper is due **FRIDAY, APRIL 30 by 5:00 P.M.**

NOTE: This list of topics is for paper option #2 on the syllabus. If you choose this option, select one of the following topics for your 9-12 page scholarly paper. You should rely heavily on the readings assigned for class when writing your paper.

1. Choose two or more of the thinkers we have examined in the readings and compare and contrast their thoughts on one or more of the following topics: socialism versus *laissez-faire* government; historical development; the meaning of freedom; leadership and administrative expertise; government regulation of business; and the meaning of democracy. **NOTE:** You do not need to write on all of these topics – only choose one or more that are relevant to the thinkers about whom you are writing.

2. What was the ethical theory of Progressivism, and how was it applied to political, social or economic thought in America in the late-nineteenth and twentieth century?

3. What effect did historicism and Social Darwinism have on political thought during the Progressive era? How did these ideological sources influence the Progressive view of the American Founding?

4. Woodrow Wilson claimed that the will of the people must rule, but he also believed that the people shouldn’t have much influence on policy-making. What was Wilson’s plan to reconcile this tension?

5. How did FDR justify the need for New Deal government regulation and planning?

6. Why did John Dewey believe that modern liberalism was the historical outgrowth of earlier liberalism? Was he correct in this claim?

7. Did the New Deal fulfill the aims of Progressivism, or did it fail to live up to the aims of Progressivism?

8. Did the Great Society programs represent a continuation or fulfillment of Progressivism or the New Deal, or did it go beyond the aims of both?

9. Is the administrative system necessary to efficiently fulfill the will of the American people? Is the administrative state compatible with democratic self-government?

10. Choose a contemporary issue (equal opportunity issues, property rights, personal rights, campaign finance reform, federalism issues, government regulation, administrative agencies, etc.) and examine how the issue originated from or was modified during the Progressive, New Deal, or Great Society eras.