Writing Assignment #2: Election Analysis

In this assignment, you will apply your knowledge of alternative voting methods to this year's Presidential elections. You will write a newspaper article explaining how some of the alternative methods work, and use polling data together with educated guesses to predict which candidate would win using various methods. Specifically, you will do the following:

- Use data from different sources, including polls, to construct a full voter profile for the three candidates Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and John McCain. You can use percentages in place of the number of voters, but you should have a number assigned to *each* of the 6 possible preference orders.

- Describe, in detail, **three** of the alternative methods for determining the winner of an election with more than two candidates. Do *not* choose plurality voting. Remember that you are writing for a general audience that is not familiar with the terminology from class, so you will have to explain any technical terms that you use.

- Apply the methods you describe to the profile you created, explaining each step in detail and showing all work. Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of each method based on your results.

Your write-up should be approximately two pages long. Be creative! You will be graded on both the content listed above as well as clarity, spelling, and grammar. I will use the rubric printed on the opposite side of this page to grade your assignment. **Please staple this page onto the front of your assignment.** Late assignments will not be accepted.

Writing Assignment #2 Grading Rubric

Name: _____

Assignment is submitted on time, with this rubric attached, and is neat and legible.	/5
Grammar is correct, words are spelled correctly, and thoughts are organized well.	/5
Construct a complete voter profile based on polling data, explaining methods and sources used.	/5
Describe an alternative voting method, explaining all terminology, and correctly apply it to the voter profile.	/5
Describe another alternative voting method, explaining all terminology, and correctly apply it to the voter profile.	/5
Describe another alternative voting method, explaining all terminology, and correctly apply it to the voter profile.	/5
Extra credit points for exceptional write-ups.	
Total	/30