Before I read the first chapter, I thought of government as an entity that makes our laws and regulates our lives. I saw it as a force that can be used to improve people’s lives if used properly. I believe that our government helps give some structure to our lives and can serve as a reflection of who we are. While I did know that having a government was a significant part of our lives, I didn’t realize to what extent until after reading the first chapter. For instance, according to the first chapter, our government is the reason why we have a standard time, have university buildings, have regulated foods, or even basic services like having someone collect our garbage.

From this class, I am hoping to become a more informed citizen in our country. My hope is that I become less arrogant and less ignorant about certain public issues. While I can’t control what others think or believe with regards to politics and public policy, my hope is that by becoming a better person or at least striving to be a better person, I can impact the world in a positive way. With regards to the online format, I believe that if a student is capable of doing well in person, then their performance in the online curriculum will reflect that. While our current pandemic may affect us in a social sense, there is no reason to believe that we can’t adapt or endure.