

Mini-assignment 1

The first mini-assignment will be due on Oct. 16th. In class we talked about using Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports to learn about congressional rules and norms. For this assignment, you will attempt to figure out what the congressional rules say about one particular question listed below. Select one of the questions below based on the first letter in your last name. That is, if your last name is Quinn, you should investigate the question "Can the Senate refuse to consider a treaty submitted by the President?" since Q is between P and T. You may work in groups of up to three students (and if so, you can select a question that corresponds with the last name of one of the students in your group). To answer the question, identify a relevant CRS report and give an answer to the question, along with a very brief explanation and citation to a CRS report. Your answer should only take two or three sentences, and should not be more than one paragraph.

(A-E) Can the House refuse to consider the president's budget?

(F-J) Can the House refuse to consider a conference report?

(K-O) Can the Senate refuse to consider a conference report?

(P-T) Can the Senate refuse to consider a treaty submitted by the President?

(U-Z) Can a majority of a House committee schedule a hearing, against the wishes of the committee chair?