

AP U.S. Government & Politics – Summer Reading – 2020 – 2021 School Year

Welcome to Mrs. Watley's AP U.S. Government & Politics class! I look forward to meeting you. This course will provide you with a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors, which will characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. We will study important U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court Cases and decisions, as well as other texts and visuals to help you gain a better understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior. You will also engage in practices that require you to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments.

Below you will find the assignment instructions and assessment details for your summer reading. You will complete a Free Response Question (FRQ) which you will turn in to me the first day of school. You will also take a Summer Reading Test, on your required readings, when we return to school. (Day and time TBD)

**** As this is a ½ Semester long course - AP Government & Politics will be taught the 1st half and Honors Economics the 2nd half of the semester - it operates at a very fast pace. You can expect nightly textbook readings to prepare you for the discussion and activities in class. However, If you want to reduce your additional workload over the course of the semester, you can read each of the nine foundational documents listed below. You can access these documents using the links provided.**

**** During the second week of school, you will have a Summer Reading Test which will focus on the Foundational documents and Supreme Court Cases listed...**

- ***The Constitution of the United States-*** You will be required to identify/describe the topics of all the Articles and the Amendments.

Due Dates:

- Summer Reading FRQ- due first day of school. You may type the essay or handwrite it in the area provided below.
- Summer Reading Test – will be administered after we return to school- day and time TBD. This will be a scantron based test that will include the following: Articles and Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and Key Supreme Court Cases.

What you need to know!

Part I: Foundational Documents - The AP U.S. Government and Politics course features nine required foundational documents to help you understand the philosophies of the founders and their critics. You will use these documents to help you take your first test for the class- Summer Reading Test. These documents are...

- ***The Declaration of Independence***
(http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration_transcript.htm)
- ***The Articles of Confederation*** (<http://www.ushistory.org/documents/confederation.htm>)

- **Brutus No. 1** (<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/brutus-i/>)
- **Federalist No. 10** (<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/federalist-no-10/>)
- **Federalist No. 51** (<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/federalist-no-51/>)
- **Federalist No. 70** (<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/federalist-no-70/>)
- **Federalist No. 78** (<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/federalist-no-78/>)
- **The Constitution of the United States** (<https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution>)
- **Letter from a Birmingham Jail**
(http://web.cn.edu/kwheeler/documents/Letter_Birmingham_Jail.pdf)

Assignment:

You will need to do a close-read of the most important, foundational document for this course- ***The Constitution of the United States***. You will also need to read a second document, from the list above, in order to help you answer the Free Response Question (FRQ) below, which you will complete and turn in the first week of school.

Part II: The 15 Landmark Supreme Court Cases- For each case listed below, you should be able to explain... 1. The major details of each case, 2. The holding in the majority opinion, 3. The constitutional principle used by the justices to support their finding, and 4. The overview of the argument(s) by dissenting justices (if applicable).

Assignment:

You need to read each case brief; learn the facts, question(s), and conclusion/decision for each of the fifteen landmark Supreme Court cases. You can find information for each case at: www.oyez.org.

- Marbury v. Madison (1803)
- McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)
- Schenck v. United States (1919)
- Brown v. Board of Education (1954)
- Baker v. Carr (1961)
- Engel v. Vitale (1962)
- Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)
- Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)
- New York Times Co. v. United States (1971)
- Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972)
- Roe v. Wade (1973)
- Shaw v. Reno (1993)
- United States v. Lopez (1995)
- McDonald v. Chicago (2010)
- Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010)

****** On the AP Exam, you should be able to apply this information to real-world scenarios or be able to compare one case to another case using supporting documentation.

Part III: Key Terms- Political science focuses on the theory and practice of government and politics at the local, state, national, and international levels. This course will help you develop an understanding of the institutions, practices, and relations that constitute public life and modes of inquiry that promote citizenship. Having a good understanding and knowledge of the political science terminology will help you in this endeavor. All of the key terms listed will be assessed by Vocabulary Quizzes throughout the course of the semester as we cover each Unit. You are to study the terms by making flash cards, Quizlets, etc. The key terms will **not** be assessed on the Summer Reading Test.

Below are the terms you will need to know for each unit as we go through the semester.

Unit I – Foundations of American Democracy:

1. Americans with Disabilities Act (1990)
2. Anti-Federalists
3. Bicameral legislature
4. Bill of attainder
5. Block grants
6. Categorical grants
7. Central government
8. Checks and balances
9. Clean Air Act (1970)
10. Commerce Clause
11. Concurrent powers
12. Conditions-of-aid
13. Indirect Democracy
14. Informal amendment
15. Inherent powers
16. Judicial Review
17. “Layer Cake” federalism
18. Limited government
19. Mandates
20. “Marble Cake” federalism
21. Natural rights
22. Necessary and Proper Clause
23. New Federalism/Devolution
24. New Jersey Plan
25. Cooperative federalism
26. Direct Democracy
27. Dual federalism
28. Elastic Clause
29. Electoral College
30. Elite democracy
31. Enumerated powers
32. Ex post facto law

33. Exclusive powers
34. Factions
35. Federalism/Federal System
36. Federalists
37. Fiscal federalism
38. Formal amendment
39. Full Faith and Credit Clause
40. Grants
41. Great (Connecticut) Compromise
42. Implied powers
43. Incentives
44. Participatory democracy
45. Pluralist democracy
46. Popular sovereignty
47. Privileges and Immunities Clause
48. Ratification
49. Representative democracy
50. Republic
51. Reserved powers
52. Revenue sharing
53. Separation of powers
54. Shay's Rebellion
55. Slave Trade Compromise
56. Social contract
57. Supremacy Clause
58. Supermajority
59. Three-Fifths Compromise
60. Unicameral legislature
61. Virginia Plan

Unit II and Unit III – American Political Ideologies and Beliefs; and Political Participation:

1. Amicus curiae briefs
2. Benchmark polls
3. Caucus
4. Closed primaries
5. Coattail effect
6. Conservative ideology
7. Core Values:
 - a. Rule of law
 - b. Equality of opportunity
 - c. Individualism
 - d. Free enterprise
 - e. limited government

- f. Critical elections
8. Dealignment Democrat Party (DEM)
 9. Divided government
 10. Electorate
 11. Exit polls
 12. Faithless elector
 13. "Free rider" problem
 14. Fixed terms
 15. Focus group
 16. Front-loading
 17. Gatekeeper
 18. Hard money
 19. Horserace journalism
 20. Incumbency advantage
 21. Incumbent
 22. Initiative
 23. Iron triangle
 24. Issue ads
 25. Liberal ideology
 26. Libertarian ideology
 27. Linkage institutions
 28. Litigation
 29. Lobbying
 30. Mass survey
 31. Open primaries
 32. Party platforms
 33. Party-line voting
 34. Patronage
 35. Pluralism
 36. Plurality
 37. Political Action Committees (PACs)
 38. Political efficacy
 39. Political socialization
 40. Proportional voting system
 41. Prospective voting
 42. Push polls
 43. Random sample
 44. Rational-choice voting
 45. Realignment
 46. Referendum
 47. Republican Party (GOP)
 48. Retrospective voting
 49. Revolving door

50. Safe seat
51. Scorekeeper
52. Single-member district
53. Soft money
54. Sound bite
55. Suffrage
56. Superdelegate
57. Swing states
58. Tracking polls
59. Watchdog
60. Winner-take-all voting system

Unit IV – Interaction Among Branches of Government:

1. “advise and consent”
2. appropriation
3. bicameral
4. budget
5. deficit
6. bully pulpit
7. bureaucracy
8. bureaucratic discretion
9. casework
10. civil service system
11. closed rule
12. cloture
13. Commander-in-Chief
14. committee chairperson
15. committee hearings
16. Committee of the Whole
17. concurring opinion
18. conference committee
19. congressional committee
20. congressional oversight
21. constituents
22. delegate role
23. discharge petition
24. discretionary spending
25. dissenting opinion
26. divided government
27. earmarks
28. entitlements
29. executive agreement
30. executive orders

31. executive privilege
32. filibuster
33. franking privilege
34. gerrymandering
35. government
36. corporations
37. gridlock holds
38. impeachment
39. injunction
40. "iron triangles"
41. issue networks
42. judicial activism
43. judicial restraint
44. judicial review
45. jurisdiction - original jurisdiction vs. appellate jurisdiction
46. lame-duck president
47. line item veto
48. logrolling
49. majority opinion
50. mandatory spending
51. mark-up
52. Medicaid
53. Medicare
54. merit system
55. partisan role
56. patronage
57. pocket veto
58. politico role
59. pork (barrel)
60. power of the purse
61. precedent
62. quorum
63. reapportionment
64. red tape
65. redistricting
66. rule-making authority
67. Rules Committee
68. select committee
69. senatorial courtesy
70. signing statements
71. Speaker of the House
72. spoils system
73. standing committee

74. stare decisis
75. State of the Union
76. trustee role
77. unanimous consent
78. veto
79. writ of certiorari

Unit V – Civil Liberties and Civil Rights:

1. affirmative action
2. Bill of Rights
3. civil liberties
4. civil rights
5. Civil Rights Act of 1964
6. Civil Rights movement
7. clear and present danger doctrine
8. cruel and unusual punishment
9. de facto segregation
10. de jure segregation
11. death penalty
12. defamation
13. double jeopardy
14. due process clause
15. Miranda rule/warnings
16. National Organization for Women (NOW)
17. obscenity
18. USA PATRIOT Act of 2001
19. poll tax
20. prior restraint
21. Pro-choice movement
22. Pro-life movement
23. public safety exception
24. racial classification
25. racial gerrymandering
26. right to privacy
27. search warrant
28. secular
29. selective incorporation
30. eminent domain
31. equal protection clause
32. establishment clause
33. exclusionary rule
34. free exercise clause
35. grand jury

36. grandfather clause
37. hate speech
38. impartial jury
39. indictment
40. Jim Crow laws
41. libel
42. majority
43. minority
44. majority/minority districting
45. separate but equal doctrine
46. slander
47. speedy and public trial
48. strict scrutiny
49. symbolic speech- time, place, and manner regulations
50. Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972
51. unreasonable search and seizure
52. USA Freedom Act of 2015
53. Voting Rights Act of 1965
54. Women's Rights movement

Part IV: Preparing for the Exam

The AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam measures your understanding of required content. You must be able to define, compare, explain, and interpret political concepts, policies, processes, perspectives, and behaviors that characterize the U.S. political system.

The AP Exam is divided into two components: Multiple Choice Questions and Free-Response Questions.

Section I of the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam consists of 55 multiple-choice questions, including:

- Quantitative Analysis: Analysis and application of quantitative-based source material
- Qualitative Analysis: Analysis and application of text-based (primary and secondary) sources
- Visual Analysis: Analysis and application of qualitative visual information
- Concept Application: Explanation of the application of political concepts in context
- Comparison: Explanation of the similarities and differences of political concepts
- Knowledge: Identification and definition of political principles, processes, institutions, policies, and behaviors

Section II of the exam consists of four Free-Response Questions (FRQ) Free-Response Questions that prompt you to:

- Concept Application: Respond to a political scenario, explaining how it relates to a political principle, institution, process, policy, or behavior

- Quantitative Analysis: Analyze quantitative data, identify a trend or pattern, draw a conclusion from the visual representation, and explain how the data relates to a political principle, institution, process, policy, or behavior
- SCOTUS Comparison: Compare a non-required Supreme Court case with a required Supreme Court case, explaining how information from the required case is relevant to that in the nonrequired one
- Argument Essay: Develop an argument in the form of an essay, using evidence from one or more required foundational documents.
 - One of the new question types is the Argument Essay. In this essay question, you are given a prompt that can have more than one possible response. You will be asked to write a defensible claim or thesis that responds to the question and establishes a line of reasoning (the response cannot earn a point for simply restating the prompt). You must then cite and describe one piece of evidence from a list of foundational documents. To earn additional points you must identify a second piece of specific and relevant evidence, making sure you explain how or why both pieces support the claim or thesis. To complete the essay you must identify an opposing or alternative perspective, demonstrate a correct understanding of it, and refute, concede, or rebut that perspective.

**** Summer Reading Assignment below... Scroll down to read and answer the FRQ.**

Summer Reading Assignment:

To help prepare for one part of the AP Exam, you will **complete an FRQ – Argument Essay**. You may use your notes from the readings of the nine foundational documents to complete the essay.

Assessment: A good response should:

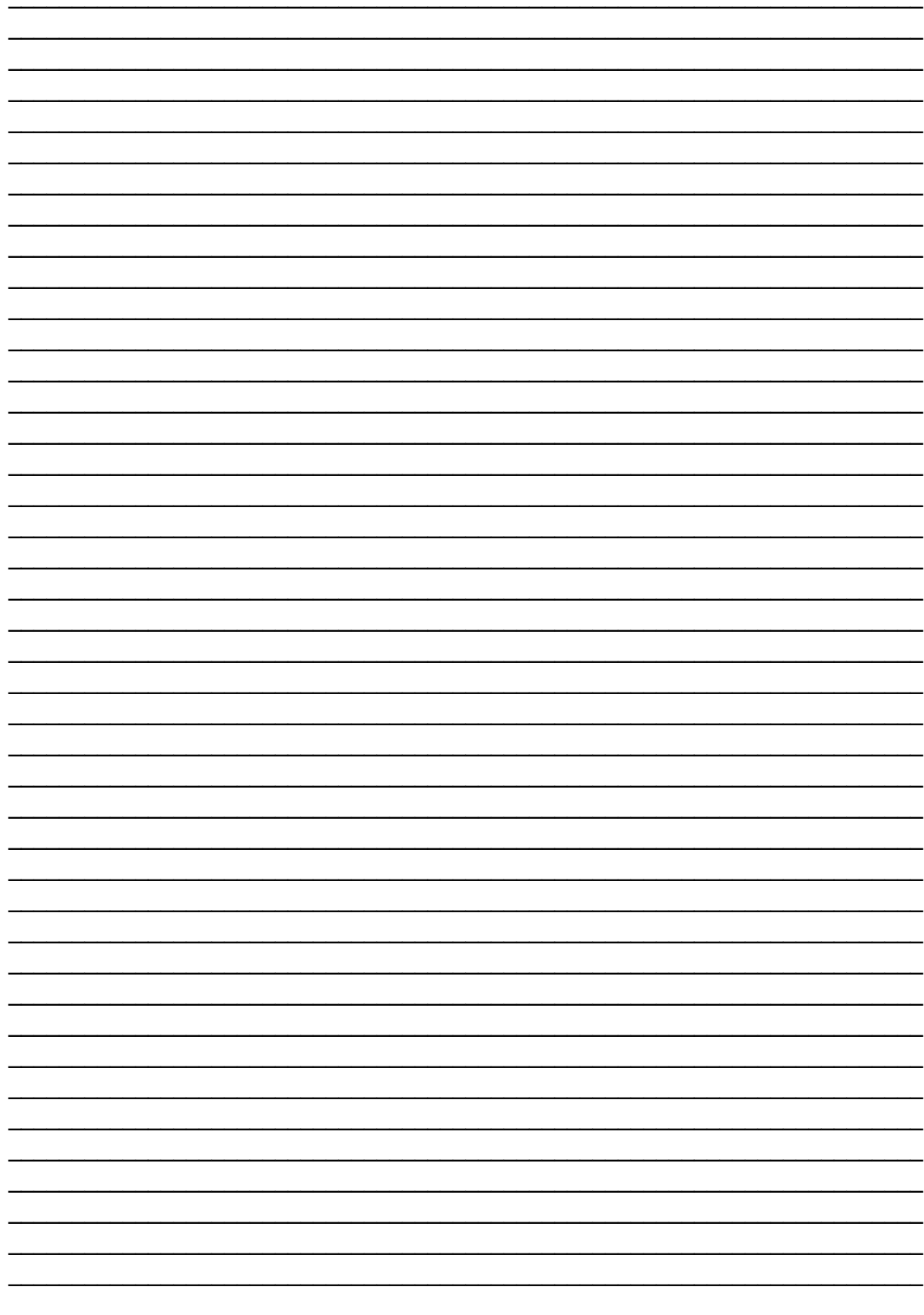
- Articulate a defensible claim or thesis that responds to the question and establishes a line of reasoning (0–1 point)
- Describe one piece of evidence that is accurately linked to the topic of the question (1 out of 3 points);
 - use one piece of specific and relevant evidence to support the argument (2 out of 3 points);
 - use two pieces of specific and relevant evidence to support the argument (3 out of 3 points)
- Explain how or why the evidence supports the claim or thesis (0–1 point)
- Respond to an opposing or alternate perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal that is consistent with the argument (0–1 point)

FRQ Argumentative Essay Prompt:

Develop an argument that explains which of the three models of representative democracy—participatory, pluralist, or elite—best achieves the founders’ intent for American democracy in terms of ensuring a stable government run by the people. In your essay, you must:

1. Articulate a defensible claim or thesis that responds to the prompt and establishes a line of reasoning
2. Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of accurate and relevant information:
 - a. At least ONE piece of evidence must be from one of the following foundational documents:
 - i. *Declaration of Independence*
 - ii. *Brutus 1*
 - iii. *Federalist No. 10*
 - iv. *Federalist No. 51*
 - v. *U.S. Constitution*
3. Use a second piece of evidence from another foundational document from the list
4. Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim/thesis
5. Respond to an opposing or alternative perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal

Answer on the lines below.



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