

## Advanced Placement/Government & Politics

Monday – Friday (Block Day – A or B)

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Fall/Spring '19 – '20

Rm. A102B

## AP Government & Politics Summer Reading Requirements

Welcome to APGOV with Mr. Meadows! The 2019-2020 school year will be a very busy one as we prepare ourselves for a rigorous Advanced Placement examination sometime in Early May of 2020. AP Government and Politics is a *college-level* course that will require you to have *extensive background knowledge* in government and politics.

Since this is a *college-level* course that requires *extensive background knowledge* in all aspects of Government and politics, it is imperative that we get off the ground running in August/September. As such, every APGOV student will be required to complete the following summer reading assignments by the first day of school, for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

### 1) Read the first four chapters (1- 3) of the assigned textbook, *By The People*

#### Part I: The United States Constitution

A) Read and Understand:

We'll be using and referencing the Constitution all year long. Read every word thoroughly -from the beginning of the Preamble to the end of the 27<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Look up and read commentary on what you don't understand.

B) Summarize:

*Create a table of contents for both the Articles and the Amendments of the Constitution. Read each article of the Constitution. Summarize the general purpose of each article and amendment, and then write down any bigger questions you have for discussion. This can be a place for creative "what-if" questions too. This must be typed.*

#### Part II: Current Events

A) Follow:

Second, start following U.S. Government and politics **news stories**. Look for daily news stories that portray the national government in action and highlight the issues/crises it must deal with everyday. Especially focus on stories that discuss Congress, the Presidency, Federal agencies, and the Supreme Court. You can also follow stories that involve national elections, politics, and politicians. Being able to discuss "real world" current events will greatly enhance your understanding of the theoretical concepts in this course. In addition, **current events knowledge is assumed on the AP Exam free response section.**

B) Record:

To document your developing news habit, keep a **current events journal** over the summer (now it's over the next two months). Beginning **Monday, July 1st through Wednesday, August 28th**, select at minimum ONE major national news story a week to write about. The articles may come from a newspaper (ie, The Washington Post or New York Times) or a magazine (ie. Time or Newsweek). Summaries must be a minimum of one paragraph, six sentences each. Make sure to **cite the articles in MLA Format. This must be typed.** Be prepared to share and discuss these articles and events the first week back to school (November)!

C) Watch:

Make a habit of watching any national (not local) evening news program on major TV networks; **CBS, ABC, NBC, FOX**. Also, check out Sunday morning "interview" shows like **Meet the Press** (NBC), **Face the Nation** (CBS) and Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace. Spend some time watching Watch specialized 24/7 news channels like Fox News Channel (FNC), Cable News Network (CNN), or MSNBC. Check out CSPAN and its affiliates for the latest news from Congress. Try to find one you like above the others. Lastly, spend some time checking out parody news shows like The Daily Show with Trevor Noah and The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. These are comedy shows, but can be very insightful about politics and current events. If you do not have tv/cable, all of these shows can be accessed online and on iTunes.

**Part III: Suggested Summer Readings**

Most can be found online for free, or on the Kindle/ iPad for free or \$0.99

The Articles of Confederation

The Delectation of Independence

Democracy in America by Alexis de Tocqueville

The Federalist Papers

The Penguin Guide to the U.S. Constitution

**Foundational Documents:**

Federalist No. 10

Brutus No. 1

Declaration of Independence

Articles of Confederation

Constitution (Articles and Including the Bill of Rights)

Amendments (1 – 27)

Federalist No. 51

Letter from a Birmingham Jail

Federalist No. 70

Federalist No. 78

**SCOTUS:**

McCulloch v. Maryland

United States v. Lopez

Engel v. Vitale

Wisconsin v. Yoder

Tinker v. Des Moines

New York Times Co. v. United States

Schenck v. United States

Gideon v. Wainwright

Roe v. Wade

McDonald v. Chicago

Brown v. Board of Education

Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission

Baker v. Carr

Shaw v. Reno

Marbury v. Madison

**Required Course Content:**

Types of Democracy

Government Power

Individual Rights

Great Compromise

Electoral College

Three Fifth Compromise

Compromise on the importation of slaves

Checks & Balances

Separation of powers

Federalism

Civil Right Act '64

Types of Polls

Interest groups

Bureaucracy

Iron Triangles

Civil Liberties

Civil rights

Free exercise clause

Doctrine of selective incorporation

Patriot Act

USA Freedom Act

Elastic Clause

Title IX

Voting Rights Act '65

Political Ideologies

Linkage Institutions

**AP Government Summer Assignment**

Read the **United States Constitution** and create for yourself a basic understanding of the document that contains the guiding principles of American self-rule. Print this out and please be sure to fill out everything, as you will hand it in for a project grade.

Use this website for the assignment: <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution.html>

Begin by clicking on "read transcript"

**THE PREAMBLE**

*This paragraph, which begins with "We the People...", outlines the basic tasks we ask our federal government to perform. List each one as it's written in the document; then in the blank next to it, think of something the federal government actually does to carry out this task.*

TASK	ACTION
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____

**ARTICLE I**

...outlines which branch of the federal government? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2** ... describes which chamber? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out each of the following rules & requirements as prescribed:

Length of term in office: \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum age: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum years as U.S. citizen: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of representatives per state shall be based upon: \_\_\_\_\_

Which "sole power" belongs to this chamber as described in Section 2? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3** ... describes which chamber? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out each of the following rules & requirements as prescribed:

Number of Senators per state: \_\_\_\_\_ Senators are to be chosen by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*\*this was later amended*

Every two years, how many Senators will be up for re-election?: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of term in office: \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum age: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum years as U.S. citizen: \_\_\_\_\_

The "President of the Senate" is: \_\_\_\_\_ With what power?: \_\_\_\_\_

Which "sole power" belongs to this chamber as described in Section 3? \_\_\_\_\_

**Sections 4, 5 & 6**... describe how the chambers are to operate with respect to meetings & adjournments, compensation, internal structure, rules, etc.... in general, who is tasked with running the House and Senate? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 7**... describes the legislative process

In *Clause 1*, only the House of Representatives may: \_\_\_\_\_

Refer to *Clause 2* to fill in the blanks:

A bill must pass \_\_\_\_\_ before being sent to \_\_\_\_\_.

If the bill is not signed into law, it returns to each chamber where a \_\_\_\_\_ vote is needed before the bill may become a law.

**Section 8**... describes all of the powers given to Congress. Write each power *in your own words* in the space provided (each separated paragraph or sentence is a *clause*)

*Clause 1*: \_\_\_\_\_

*Clause 2*: \_\_\_\_\_

*Clause 3*: \_\_\_\_\_

*Clause 4*: \_\_\_\_\_

*Clause 5*: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 8: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 9: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 10: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 11: \_\_\_\_\_

Clauses 12 – 16 call for Congress to: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 17 allows for Congress to appropriate land for: \_\_\_\_\_

Clause 18 gives Congress the ability to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 9**... limits the federal government in certain key areas – look up and define the following terms:

Writ of habeas corpus: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bill of attainder: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Ex post facto law: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Also in this section, Congress cannot place a tax on \_\_\_\_\_,  
nor in regulating commerce favor one state over another.

**Section 10**... places limits on state governments, including the following:

No state may enter into \_\_\_\_\_ with another state or  
foreign country.

**ARTICLE II**

...outlines which branch of the federal government? \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out each of the following rules & requirements as prescribed in **Section 1**:

Length of term in office: \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum age: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship requirement: \_\_\_\_\_ Residency requirement: \_\_\_\_\_

Paragraphs 2,3 & 4 of Section 1 (although later amended) describes \_\_\_\_\_

The last paragraph of Section 1 describes \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2**... describes the President's powers

With regards to the military, the President is the \_\_\_\_\_

The President has the power to grant \_\_\_\_\_

With advice & consent of the Senate, the President may make \_\_\_\_\_ and

nominate/appoint \_\_\_\_\_

When the Senate is in recess, the President may fill vacancies. How long may these appointments last?

**Section 3**... outlines three things the President may do with respect to Congress, they are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 4**... for which offenses may the President, Vice President and other executive officers be impeached and removed from office?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**ARTICLE III**

...outlines which branch of the federal government? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1**... establishes one \_\_\_\_\_

Who is given the power to establish the "inferior" courts of the federal system? \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the idea that judges shall hold their office during "good behavior," how long is the term of a federal judge & Supreme Court justice? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2**... identify six areas in which the federal courts have jurisdiction as described in *Clause 1*:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Clause 2* ...describes the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has *original* jurisdiction when the parties involved are \_\_\_\_\_

or \_\_\_\_\_

In all other federal cases, the Supreme Court has \_\_\_\_\_ jurisdiction.

**Section 3**... defines \_\_\_\_\_ as the only crime in the Constitution. The Framers intended this very specific definition to prevent the loose use of the charge, for example, against people who criticize the government. How is this crime defined?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE IV**

...outlines relations between the states, and the federal government's obligations to states

**Section 1**... calls for states to extend \_\_\_\_\_ to the acts, records and proceedings of other states.

**Section 2**... describes how citizens of states shall be treated in other states.

*Clause 1* entitles citizens of each state all \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

*Clause 2* does not allow \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*\*Clause 3* was later repealed by amendment

**Section 3**... who is given the power to admit new states to the union? \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 4**... the federal government guarantees it will do three things for the states:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE V**

...outlines how the Constitution will be amended in the future

Which are the two ways an amendment may be proposed?

\_\_\_\_\_

Which are the two ways an amendment will be ratified?

\_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE VI**

**Section 1**... calls for the federal government to be responsible to \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2**... states the Constitution, federal laws and treaties are \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3**... calls for federal officers to take an oath, and that no \_\_\_\_\_ shall be required to qualify for office

**ARTICLE VII**

...describes how The Constitution itself would be ratified

States needed for ratification: \_\_\_\_\_ On what day was The Constitution signed?: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Convention attendees who signed the final document: \_\_\_\_\_

For the following signers, click on their name, read biography and briefly describe any role, contribution, or views held during the Constitutional Convention:

George Washington (Virginia): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

James Madison (Virginia): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

John Langdon (New Hampshire): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Roger Sherman (Connecticut): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Alexander Hamilton (New York): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

William Paterson (New Jersey): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Benjamin Franklin (Pennsylvania): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Gouverneur Morris (Pennsylvania): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Go back to main Constitution page, then click on "Constitutional Amendments 1-10" (aka "The Bill of Rights"), click on "read transcript" and write a *brief* description of each amendment's *overall intent* in your own words (not necessary to be very specific about the provisions in each amendment):

1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

6<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

7<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

8<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

9<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

10<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Now click on "Amendments 11-27" and *briefly* describe the *intent* of each amendment in your own words (not necessary to be very specific about provisions):

11<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

12<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

13<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

14<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

15<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

16<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

17<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

18<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

19<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

20<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

21<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

22<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

23<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

24<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

25<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

26<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

27<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_