



AP United States Government & Politics

2017-2018

This assignment is designed to help get you ready for Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics in several ways. You will be reading, writing, thinking and interacting in a political context so that when the course begins, you will feel comfortable with the content and the process of a rigorous government class. Completion of this work is due on the 1st class upon the return to school. We will have a vocabulary quiz on chapter 1 & numerous quizzes on the material in September.

What can I expect in AP Government & Politics??

- ☆ Timed essays.
- ☆ Nightly homework assignments.
- ☆ Daily quizzes.
- ☆ Current events discussions.
- ☆ Unit tests.
- ☆ Maintenance of Supreme Court case and Key Terms & Concepts flashcards.
- ☆ Work on reading & analyzing political graphs, charts, & polls.

There are 4 major parts to this summer assignment:

1. READ CHAPTER 1. Define the chapter 1 terms and outline the chapter.
 - Please put definitions on index cards. Term on one side, definition on the other.
2. Amendments - index cards
3. Political Terms – index cards
4. Important Supreme Court Cases
 - ALL PARTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED ON INDEX CARDS!

*** Watch the news & keep up to date on current events – attempt to watch CNN, FOXNews &/or MSNBC as often as possible.

Please purchase index cards FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR and be prepared to define between 300-400 terms between now and June 2018. Keeping the definitions on flashcards will provide you with a great tool to review for both class exams & the AP U.S. Government exam. (You can go to the Dollar Store or Job Lot and find a package for a buck! Be frugal!) Put the term on one side of the card & the definition on the other side. It may be wise to write the chapter # on the index card.

PART I

Chapter 1

* Read Chapter 1. Define the following terms and **outline** the chapter in your notebook. ALL DEFINITIONS SHOULD BE COMPLETED ON INDEX CARDS.

- Power
- Authority
- Legitimacy
- Democracy
- Direct Democracy
- Representative Democracy
- Elite
- Marxist View
- Power Elite View
- Bureaucratic View
- Pluralist View

PART II

Amendments

- Amendments 1-27
 - Define the Amendments on index cards.
 - They should be short and sweet.
 - *Example:*
 - Side 1: 24th Amendment
 - Side 2: Abolished the poll tax

PART III

Political Terms

- Define the following terms. Use your textbook to complete Part III. Please put the definitions on index cards.
 - Articles of Confederation
 - Federalist
 - Anti-Federalist
 - Strict Construction
 - Loose Construction
 - Representative Democracy
 - Constituent
 - Conservative
 - Liberal
 - Political Ideology
 - Checks & Balances
 - Separation of Powers
 - Judicial Review

PART IV

Landmark U.S. Supreme Court Cases

Complete the following assignment on INDEXCARDS. Write the name of the case on one side of the card. The facts of the case, question & conclusion should be on the other side of the card (write small or staple cards together.)

The following Supreme Court decisions have played a major role in our nation's history and have had a great influence on the evolutionary development of American government. These are some of the cases you will need to know for the exam in AP U.S. Government & Politics. We will be studying other cases as the year progresses (around 50 total.) The prescribed process is to be followed exactly for each case you research.

The procedure is as follows:

Name of the case

Brief summary of the facts of the case

Constitutional Question (including the Amendments applied)

The Supreme Court's decision & reasoning for the decision

Example study:

Mapp v. Ohio, 1961

Facts of the Case:

Dolree Mapp was convicted of possessing obscene materials after an admittedly illegal police search of her home for a fugitive. She appealed her conviction on the basis of freedom of expression.

Question:

Were the confiscated materials protected by the 1st Amendment? (May evidence obtained through a search in violation of the 4th Amendment be admitted in a state criminal proceeding?)

Conclusion:

The Court brushed aside the First Amendment issue and declared that "all evidence obtained by searches and seizures in violation of the Constitution is, by [the 4th Amendment], inadmissible in a state court." Mapp had been convicted on the basis of illegally obtained evidence. This was an historic -- and controversial -- decision. It placed the requirement of excluding illegally obtained evidence from court at all levels of the government. The decision launched the Court on a troubled course of determining how and when to apply the **Exclusionary Rule**.

- * BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE AMENDMENT(S) USED IN THE CASE.
- * Research the following cases using the example provided. You should be able to access these cases at www.oyez.org

1. Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 1988
2. Brown v. Board of Education, 1954
3. Tinker v. Des Moines School District, 1969
4. Lemon v. Kurtzman, 1971
5. Reynolds v. United States, 1879
6. Roe v. Wade, 1973
7. Gideon v. Wainwright, 1963
8. Miranda v. Arizona, 1966
9. Furman v. Georgia, 1972
10. Gregg v. Georgia, 1976