

WELCOME

Unit One: Political Culture, Public Opinion and Political Participation Assignment Part One Fall of 2018 All following due 15 August 2018

A.P. American Government by James Q. Wilson & John J. Dilulio Jr.
If you are in Fall session Check out text at Library NOW!

Reading Questions for *American Government* text, Political Culture

1. What are the elements that the book identifies with our political culture? What is the difference between a political culture and a political ideology?
2. Be familiar with the differences between American political culture and other countries' political cultures? (When I say "be familiar" with something in a question – you don't have to write anything, just understand the concepts. Of course, if you're a perfectionist or a worry wart, feel free to write notes.)
3. The book lists five important elements in the American view of the political system. Be familiar with them and think about whether or not you agree that these are values that the great majority of Americans believe in. Would you add to or subtract from that list?
4. What is the fundamental liberal/conservative divide on economics? What is the difference between equality of opportunity and equality of results?
5. What does the book say about the role of religion in our culture? Skim through the section on the "sources of Political Culture" and be familiar with what those sources are.
6. How does the book explain the absence of a high degree of class consciousness among Americans?
7. Briefly summarize (you can use bullet points) what the book says about the "culture war" in America.
8. Briefly list the reasons why Americans have lost trust in the federal government today.

Reading Questions *American Government* text, for Public Opinion

1. What was the Founders' attitude towards public opinion? Give examples of how we see that attitude reflected in how they wrote the Constitution.
2. What is political socialization? The book gives four factors that affect political socialization. Learn them.
3. Briefly summarize what the book says about the role of the family, religion, and gender on the development of political beliefs.
4. The book discusses cleavages which may divide various demographic groups ideologically. The authors give three factors that divide people's political beliefs. Identify those three factors and summarize the conclusions about the correlation between these factors and people's political opinions. Memorize this.

5. What is political ideology? What are the problems with surveys asking people to identify their own ideology?
6. make sure you know the definitions of political elites and activists. We will be using these terms often this year.
7. What are the two reasons the book gives why activists or the political elite tend to have more ideological consistency than those who aren't active? What effect does this ideological consistency have on the difference ideologically between politicians and voters?
8. How do elites influence public opinion? What are the limits to their ability to shape public opinion?

Reading Questions for *American Government* text, Political Participation

1. Summarize the information in the book on nonvoting in the U.S. Why does the book say it isn't quite as bad as it seems? What needs to be taken into consideration when looking at nonvoting statistics?
2. What have states been doing to make voting easier for people? What did Congress pass in 1993 to increase voter participation and what has been the result of that law?
3. What get-out-the-vote (GOTV) tactics are the most successful?
4. How did states try to keep blacks from voting? Summarize those tactics and how they gradually were changed. Make sure you know what a literacy test, poll tax, grandfather clause, and the white primary as well as *Smith v. Allwright* and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were.
5. What political effects have there been since the Nineteenth and Twenty-Sixth Amendments?
6. Summarize the arguments as to why voter turnout has declined. (a bullet –list is fine.)
7. What are some other ways of participating in politics other than voting? Check the chapter summary for help with this.
8. Make a list of the generalizations that the book makes about which groups tend to be more or less likely to vote. Memorize this list.
9. Summarize the reasons the book gives for why Americans register and vote less frequently.

Identifications - You should be familiar with all these terms by the end of the unit, use index cards.

1.	Political Culture	15.	weighting	29.	Fifteenth Amendment
2.	Political Ideology	16.	focus groups	30.	Nineteenth Amendment (1920)
3.	Equality of Opportunity	17.	instant response polling	31.	Twenty-Sixth Amendment (1971)
4.	Equality of Results	18.	push polls	32.	Twenty-Third Amendment (1961)
5.	Civic duty	19.	bandwagon effect	33.	Twenty-Fourth Amendment (1964)
6.	Silent Majority	20.	refusal rate	34.	literacy test
7.	Demographics	21.	exit polls	35.	poll tax
8.	Social Status (socio-economic status, SES)	22.	Tracking poll	36.	grandfather clause
9.	Gender Gap	23.	skewed question	37.	white primary,

10.	Liberal	24.	context effect	39.	<i>Smith v. Allwright</i> (1944)
11.	Conservative	25.	question framing	40.	Voting Rights Act (1965)
12.	Political Elite	26.	saliency	41.	disfranchisement
13.	random sample	27.	Motor-Voter Law (1993)	42.	Australian ballot
14.	sampling error	28.	Help America Vote Act 2002	43.	activist

Know Questions and Themes, make notes and (Cornell?).

Conservative vs. liberal ideologies

Political socialization

Characteristics of American political culture

Demographic variables affecting ideology; gender gap

Who turns out to vote: demographic variables affecting who turns out to vote

Motor Voter Act and its effects

How people vote: what they evaluate candidates on

Why more vote in presidential elections than in off-year elections

Participation: conventional/unconventional

Institutional and non-institutional obstacles to voting

Retrospective and prospective voting

Sources of political information

Factors that influence people's political beliefs

What is in the Constitution that favors popular vote and what barriers are there to pure democracy?

Types of polls and problems with polling; requirements for a valid poll

Ideological divisions in politics; factors that cause cleavages in public opinion

Sectional differences: Sun Belt, Rust Belt, Snow Belt

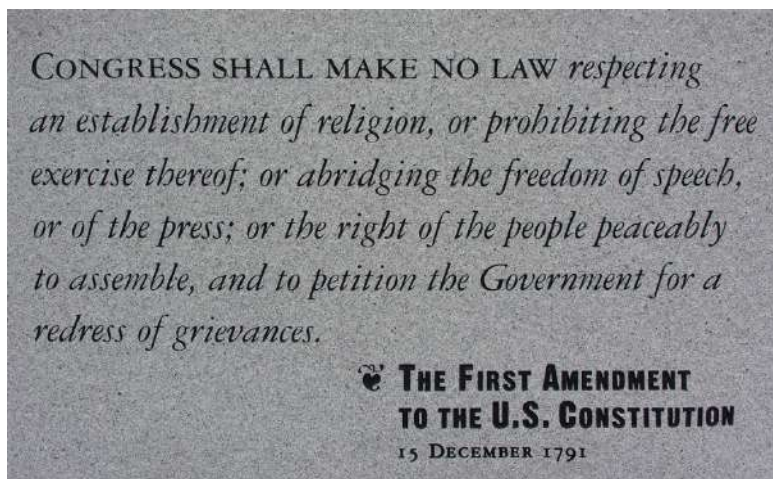
Reasons for decline in trust and confidence in government, consequences of that decline

PART II

Annotate this document & know all Amendments, I suggest index cards.

Quiz to follow in class.

Constitutional Amendments: AP US Government



The United States ratified a new Constitution in 1789, replacing a much looser confederacy of the states known as the Articles of Confederation, which had been the national government from 1781-1789. In Article V of this new document, the Framers included a mechanism to amend the new Constitution. Let's take a look at that first. The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the

first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

That's the whole thing. It sets out two ways to propose Amendments: either by two-thirds of both houses of Congress or a convention called by two-thirds of the states. Then Amendments can be ratified either by three-fourths of the states or by conventions in three-fourths of the states.

No Amendments have been proposed by a convention called by two-thirds of the states since such a convention has never been invoked. For the most part that makes this a point of trivia and scholarship and not particularly relevant for an AP Government Exam. It is notable, however, since just this kind of convention is what was proposed to amend the Articles of Confederation, where those in attendance decided to scrap the whole thing and start over again. This could happen to the Constitution. It's unlikely, but the possibility is sitting there like a little Constitutional time bomb waiting to go off one day. For your purposes then, it requires two-thirds of the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the Senate to vote to propose an amendment. This is a significant number. Right now, the Republican Party controls 56 percent of the House and 52 percent of the Senate. So, on party lines alone, they can't come close to two-thirds in either body. Unless one party controls more than two-thirds of Congress, which isn't likely to happen any time soon, amendments to the Constitution require broad support from Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives. Right now, they have a hard time reaching agreement to name post offices, let alone amend the United States Constitution. In the ratification stage, conventions in the states were used only once, to ratify the 21st Amendment. This was the only amendment to repeal a previous amendment. The 21st Amendment repealed the 18th, which banned the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages, a movement commonly referred to as "Prohibition". As you can see, this was an unusual situation.

All the other Amendments were ratified by state legislatures. Again, reflect on how high a bar three-fourths of the states is... Only 13 states are needed to block an amendment. That means that, by calculating the population of the smallest 13 states, we can say that roughly 15 million people out of a nation of approximately 322 million could block an amendment.

Amending the Constitution is extremely difficult—by design. This difficult process has served us well, making the Constitution relatively stable, which helps to make it revered by citizens. It also made it so one party couldn't take over and amend the Constitution to stay in power for good.

The first ten amendments to the Constitution were really a part of the original ratification process, and we refer to them as the Bill of Rights.

In the process of trying to convince the citizens in the original 13 states to ratify the new Constitution, the Framers had to convince some skeptics, who we now call the “Anti-Federalists” that the new government wouldn’t be too powerful and threaten their liberties. While the Framers thought that self-government alone—democracy—would ensure people’s rights, they agreed to amend to the new Constitution a Bill of Rights clarifying individual rights and specific limits on the national government.

So, following the ratification of the Constitution, they immediately began drafting amendments, with 12 initially proposed to the states and ten being ratified by 1791. One of the original twelve did, strangely, become our 27th Amendment after 203 years. After we talk about the Bill of Rights, we’ll look at the other 17 post-Bill of Rights amendments—obviously, that means there are 27 total.

The First Amendment is, arguably the most important Amendment and it protects five basic freedoms: freedom of religious establishment, freedom of religious practice, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and freedom to petition the government for redress. Freedom of establishment means there can be no official state-sanctioned church in the United States. Freedom of religious practice, sometimes called the free exercise clause, means that the government may not dictate religious practice or officially sanction religious clergy. Freedom of speech is intended to protect political speech most of all, but protects many other forms of expression as well. Freedom of assembly ensures people can form and join groups as they see fit and demonstrate in public spaces. The last freedom ensures people can demand the government address certain complaints.

The Second Amendment deals with guns and is currently controversial. Some people interpret this to be a “collective right” granted to the militias mentioned in the text. Those people believe that individual gun rights can be restricted by the government. Others view it as a guarantee of individual rights to possess guns, and they tend to view most or all restrictions on gun ownership as unconstitutional. Only in recent years has the “individual right” interpretation become more widely accepted.

The Third Amendment deals with the quartering of soldiers in private homes and is not really relevant anymore. It tells you how serious they were about liberty and the limit of governmental power that the people of the 18th century put it in the Bill of Rights.

The Fourth Amendment deals with protecting citizens from unreasonable searches and seizures of their property and requires the government to establish probable cause to get a warrant to search one's property. This is one of several amendments protecting citizens from abuses they suffered under the King of England and did not want their own government to repeat.

The Fifth Amendment, in line with the Fourth, further protects citizens' due process rights in criminal matters, protects them from self-incrimination, and forbids them from being tried again for a crime they've been acquitted of, something known as "double jeopardy". Also, importantly, it requires the government to compensate anyone whose property is taken or harmed. This government seizure of property is often known as "eminent domain" and can be exercised if the government, for instance, needs to build a road through your farm. It can do it, but it has to pay you fairly if it does.

The Sixth Amendment deals with the conduct of criminal trials.

The Seventh and Eighth Amendments deal with matters of bail in civil and criminal trials. Also, the 8th Amendment prohibits "cruel and unusual punishment". This was probably intended to prohibit torturing people as punishment for crimes, but the exact intent of this prohibition has been debated ever since.

The Ninth and Tenth Amendments basically say that these are not an exhaustive list of rights. Those not specified are still reserved either to the people or the states, respectively.

That's the Bill of Rights.

The 11th and 12th Amendments limit judicial power and clarify the workings of the Electoral College, respectively. These amendments, along with the 20th Amendment, the 22nd Amendment, the 25th Amendment, and the 27th Amendment, clarify technical matters of how government operates. In that respect they are important, but they are not particularly "earth-shattering" and generally don't get too much attention, on an AP Government Exam. If you subtract those, we've only had about 11 major Amendments in over 200 years, and two of those cancel each other out. That's pretty remarkable for a document crafted in the 18th century!

The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments came after the conclusion of the Civil War. The 13th ended slavery, the 14th guaranteed citizens due process of law and equal protection of the law, inclusive of state government as well, and the 15th granted freed male slaves voting rights. Application of these amendments was spotty, at best, as many states found ways to continue to deprive African Americans of meaningful civil rights until 100 years later.

The 14th Amendment deserves special attention. By guaranteeing citizens' rights with respect to their state governments, the 14th Amendment made it possible that the Bill of Rights could apply to state governments for the first time. In 1833, in a case known as *Barron v. Baltimore*, the Supreme Court made it very clear that state governments were not restricted by the Bill of Rights or other amendments, only the national government. After the 14th Amendment, the Court slowly "incorporated" most of the Bill of Rights to include protection of speech, religion, due process, etc. at the state level.

The 16th Amendment granted the federal government the power to collect an income tax.

The 17th Amendment changed the election of US Senators to a direct vote by citizens of the state. Up until this amendment, state legislatures chose the Senators.

The 18th Amendment banned the sale of alcoholic beverages, known to most people as "Prohibition".

The 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote, also known as "women's suffrage".

The 20th Amendment clarified presidential and vice presidential terms.

The 21st Amendment repealed the 18th Amendment, ending the national experiment with Prohibition after 14 years.

The 22nd Amendment formally limited the President to serving two terms. Before that, two terms had been a "norm" since George Washington resigned after his second term. However, Franklin Roosevelt was elected to four terms. This was a reflection of a nation at war, and FDR died during his fourth term. Still, an amendment was passed to make the informal two-term limitation official.

The 23rd Amendment granted electors to the Electoral College for the District of Columbia.

The 24th Amendment made poll taxes that citizens had to pay to vote unconstitutional.

The 25th Amendment clarified the line of succession should the President not be able to serve his term and provided a mechanism to transfer power to the Vice President if the President could not discharge his duties. This has only been used in temporary circumstances for things like a president undergoing surgery.

The 26th Amendment granted 18 year-old citizens the right to vote. This was an Amendment made during the Vietnam War, as many teenagers were being drafted while having no say in the government sending them to war.

Finally, the 27th Amendment was a bit of an historical quirk. It had been proposed along with the original Bill of Rights but was not ratified. A congressional staffer decided to see if he could get it ratified and, after 203 years, it became an official amendment. It's a weird one, but the Supreme Court ruled there was no time limit on ratification, so it took

effect. All it does is prevent Congress from raising their own pay until an election takes place in between the proposed “raise”.

And there you have it, all 27 Amendments to the United States Constitution.

Six amendments have been proposed, making it through two-thirds of Congress but never getting enough states to ratify. This included one of the original 12 proposed for the Bill of Rights (the 27th Amendment was the other one).

Hopefully, this summary of the amendments and the process of amending the Constitution helps you in your study for the AP Government Exam. The Amendments themselves can be hard to understand, some because of when they were written, in other instances because they were written with specific language of what was being changed and how that would be enforced. But, in a general sense, most of them are pretty straightforward

Part Three

**2017 A.P.USGOV Assignment - Constitution Web Activity – DUE: 17 January 2017,
first day class.**

Using the internet (you may need to search a variety of sources), find the information requested.

Article I – Legislative Branch

House of Representatives

Name

Political Party – State

Speaker of the House

Majority Leader

Majority Whip

Minority Leader

Minority Whip

Your Representative

Which Congressional District do you live in? _____

What is the role/duty of the Whip for each party?

How many committees are there in the House?

How many Democrats are currently in the House? Republicans?

Name

Political Party & State

President of the Senate

President Pro Tempore

Senate Majority Leader

Majority Whip

Senate Minority Leader

Minority Whip

Your Senators

When are your senators up for reelection?

How many committees are there in the Senate?

How many Republicans are in the Senate? Democrats?

When the last time a senator was expelled (removed) from the U.S. Senate?

What is a ***filibuster*** in the past and today (look it up on line).

When was the longest filibuster in Senate history? Give some details.

Article II – Executive

President & Cabinet

Name

Party – State (Pres & VP only)

President

Vice President

Secretary of State

Secretary of Treasury

Secretary of Defense

Attorney General

Secretary of Interior

Secretary of Agriculture

Secretary of Commerce

Secretary of Labor

Secretary of Health and
Human Services

Secretary of Housing and
Urban Development

Secretary of Transportation

Secretary of Energy

Secretary of Education

Secretary of Veterans Affairs _____

Secretary of Homeland Security _____

Who is the President's Chief of Staff? What is his role?

Article III – Judicial

<u>Supreme Court</u> <u>(appointed by which president?)</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date sworn in (& Pres. who</u>
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Chief Justice

Associate Justices

How many Federal District Courts are there?

How many Circuit Courts of Appeal are there?

In which Circuit do we live?

What special duties/powers does the Chief Justice have on the Court?



Key Supreme Court Cases

The Supreme Court has issued thousands of opinions, but some of its decisions have either had a profound impact on American history or continue to influence American government today.

The following is a comprehensive list of these cases. You are certain to be asked

about some of them on the AP US Government & Politics exam.

Case	Year	Holding (opinion)
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Marbury v. Madison 1803: *Establishes judicial review.*

McCulloch v. Maryland 1819: *Expands federal “implied powers”*

Gibbons v. Ogden 1824: *Establishes Congress’s power to regulate interstate commerce.*

Dred Scott v. Sanford 1857: *Says that slaves are not citizens.*

Munn v. Illinois 1876: *Says that states can regulate privately owned business to protect the public’s interests*

Plessy v. Ferguson 1896: *Holds that separate but equal facilities for African-Americans are constitutional*

Schenck v. US 1919: *Allows limits to speech based on the “clear and present danger” principle*

Gitlow v. New York 1925: *Incorporates 1st amend free speech to apply to the States using 14th amend*

Near v. Minnesota 1931: *Says there can be no prior restraint of publication based on freedom of the press*

Korematsu v. US 1944: *Says that the government can intern (imprison) citizens during wartime emergencies*

Brown v. Board of Ed. 1954: *Overtured Plessy ruling in regard to public schools.*

Roth v. US 1957: *Obscenity is not protected by free speech rights*

Mapp v. Ohio 1961: *Defines “unreasonable search and seizure” and regulates the use of warrants to obtain evidence*

Baker v. Carr 1962: *Holds the court may intervene in appointment cases and that every citizen’s vote carries equal weight*

Engle v. Vitale 1963: *Says that there can be no school-led prayer in public schools*

Gideon v. Wainwright 1963: *Requires that states provide defendants with attorneys in state courts*

Heart of Atlanta v. US 1964: *Says that the Commerce Clause applies to private and interstate business*

Griswold v. Connecticut 1965: *Citizens have an implied right to privacy, including the right to use contraceptives*

Miranda v. Arizona 1966: *Says that police must explain the rights of the accused at the time of arrest*

Terry v. Ohio 1968: *Police can search and seize if they have probable cause*

Lemon v. Kurtzman 1971: *Establishes the Lemon Test, which allows for some government aid to parochial schools*

N.Y. Times v US 1971: *Limits prior restraint of the press*
Miller v. California 1973 Holds that community standards determine what obscenity is

Roe v. Wade 1973: *Establishes a woman's right to an abortion under specific circumstances*

US v. Nixon 1974: *Holds that executive privilege does not extend to criminal cases*

Gregg v. Georgia 1976: *Holds that the death penalty does not violate the Constitution*

Buckley v. Valeo 1976: *Establishes campaign money limits but also holds that contributions are a form of speech*

Regents v. Bakke 1978: *Race can be considered in admissions, but no racial quotas are allowed*

New Jersey v. TLO 1985: *School searches without warrants are allowed*

Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier 1988: *School newspapers can be censored by teachers and administrators*

Texas v. Johnson 1989: *Flag burning is a form of free speech*

Planned Parenthood v. Casey 1992: *States can put some restrictions on Abortion*

Printz v. U.S. 1997: *Limits the Fed Government under 10th amend access to the mechanism of state governments. In this case no Necessary & Proper Clause for the Fed Government pertaining to handgun registration (privy of the states, 10th Amend).*

Santa Fe ISD v. Doe 2000: *There can be no school-led prayers at extracurricular events*

Bush v. Gore 2000: *Ended the election recount in Florida, which led to George W. Bush winning the 2000 presidential election*

Gratz v. Bollinger 2003: *Affirmative action in college admissions is OK but must be limited*

McDonald v. Chicago 2010: *Incorporated the 2nd Amendment right to bear arms to the states*

Citizen's United v. FEC 2011: *Removed campaign contribution limits for business and unions*

Obergefell v. Hodges 2015: *The fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment*

It is important that you know the bare-bones facts of these cases. It's not a bad idea to **make flashcards** with the names and dates of the cases on the front, and the holdings on back, to help you memorize the information.

There's a decent chance you will be asked to discuss a few cases in more detail, particularly the cases pertaining to the Bill of Rights and civil liberties. So, let's take a closer look at a select few of these cases.

Freedom of Religion Cases * Identify this on your flash card

In **Engle v. Vitale**, the Court struck down a New York state nondenominational prayer that began with the words "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence on thee..."

Lemon v. Kurtzman set guidelines to help determine whether government action crosses the church-state line. These guidelines are: the purpose of the legislation must be secular, not religious; its primary affect must neither enhance nor inhibit religion; and it must avoid an "excessive entanglement of government with religion."

Freedom of Speech Cases *

In ***Schenck v. United States***, the majority ruled that Schenck did not have the right to print, speak or distribute materials against US efforts in World War I because a “clear and present danger” existed.

New York Times v. US, famously known as the Pentagon Papers case, held that the government did not have the right to prohibit the New York Times from publishing information about the history of US involvement in the Vietnam War.

Citizens United v. FEC held that corporate (and union) funding of political advertisements that did not specifically endorse a candidate was constitutional under the First Amendment and could not be limited.

Right to Privacy Cases *

Griswold v. Connecticut held that Americans had a right to privacy that was implied by other constitutional protections and that this meant the state could not prohibit the use of contraceptives.

Roe v. Wade used the concept of being “secure in their persons” to hold that abortions are constitutionally protected.

A Practice AP US Government Free-Response Question

Now let’s look at part of a sample free-response question and figure out how to answer it.

The First Amendment includes two clauses relating to the freedom of religion. (a) Select one of the following cases and identify the First Amendment clause upon which the United States Supreme Court based its decision.

- *Engle v. Vitale (school prayer)*

- *Lemon v. Kurtzman (state funding for private religious schools)*

(b) Describe the Supreme Court’s opinion in the decision you selected in (a).

OK, this shouldn’t be too difficult. For (a), let’s pick *Lemon v. Kurtzman*. We know that the First Amendment says “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Kurtzman deals with the Establishment Clause, because it aims to allow for government funding of the **secular** aims of parochial (religious) schools without funding religion itself.

For part (b), the answer is simple. All we have to do is write down how the case was decided. The Court allowed government funding for parochial schools, as long as three guidelines were met:

- The purpose of the legislation must be secular, not religious*
- Its primary affect must neither enhance nor inhibit religion*
- it must avoid an “excessive entanglement of government with religion.”*

Remember the Most Salient Facts of Cases

The key for doing well on questions about Supreme Court cases on the AP US Government & Politics exam is to memorize the most salient facts about the important cases. Use flashcards, or do drills with a classmate to commit these cases to memory. Most importantly you will see a quiz/test from Mr. Leffler.

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