

AP Government & Politics (United States & Comparative)

Summer Assignment 2019-2020

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The 21st century has taught us that we cannot ignore the world around us. Happenings around the globe now directly impact our lives, and social studies teachers and students around the country face the challenge of interpreting complex, puzzling events. ~Ethel Wood

Course Description: This two-semester course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on national and global politics. Students will focus on the governments and the diverse political structures of the United States, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, China, and Iran. Content and comparisons will focus on power structures, political institutions, major documents and court cases, citizen participation, political and economic change, and public policy. Students will be exposed to different theoretical and practical frameworks that are the foundation for a variety of political systems. Students enrolled in the class are expected to take at least ONE of the AP exams in place of a final.

Test Dates: US Gov & Pol—Monday, May 4th, 2020 at 7:30AM;

Comparative Gov & Pol—Thursday, May 14th, 2020 at 7:30AM

WARNING: The Summer Assignment is NOT collaborative, so do your own work. Students who plagiarize will receive a zero, and will be expected to REDO the assignment if they wish to remain in the class. All assignments will be collected the first day of class (August 27th, 2019).

Assignment #1

Throughout the year, we will be exploring the United States, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Russia, China, Iran, and Nigeria, and the AP exams may contain questions about current events from these countries. You will need to build a base of knowledge of “What is going on in these countries?” over the summer. For EACH of the SEVEN countries, collect at least THREE current event articles about either their GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, or ECONOMICS. We will continue to do this activity throughout the school year. Articles must be published no earlier than June 2nd, 2019.

Worth: 20 points total.

Use the following websites to gather the articles:

Helpful Websites:

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/26306>

<http://www.cnn.com/world>

<https://www.nytimes.com/>

<http://www.economist.com/>

<http://www.bbc.com/>

<http://www.reuters.com/news/world>

<http://www.voanews.com/>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/>

<http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/>

<http://www.csmonitor.com/>

<http://allafrica.com/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/>

<http://time.com/>

<http://www.newsweek.com/>

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/>

<https://www.wsj.com/>

For all 21 articles, write a ONE PAGE summary and reaction to the content using the format listed below:

1. The TITLE of the article

2. The WEBSITE/PUBLICATION where you located it
3. The DATE it was published
4. A short SUMMARY of the article (half-page minimum)
5. The IMPACT the information or event may have on the country's government, politics, or economy, or on the international community, including your thoughts and opinions (half-page minimum)
6. Each Reflection should be typed: single or 1.15 spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman or equivalent with 1-inch margin

Assignment #2

For AP United State Government and Politics, read the ENTIRE US Constitution (I have pocket versions of it available). Then, on a separate piece of paper, complete the outline of the basics below. Respond to each question in **YOUR OWN WORDS**. You need to understand what that article or section is describing. You will have a test over the US Constitution in September. The outline may be typed or handwritten.

Worth: 20 points total.

* In **one sentence** for each, summarize the general topic covered in each article.*

0. Preamble: In your own words, list the general purposes of the Constitution (6)

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|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| a. | c. | e. |
| b. | d. | f. |

1. Article I*

- | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| a. What are the formal job requirements for the House of Representatives? (3) | | |
| i. | ii. | iii. |
| b. What is the term length for a Representative? | | |
| c. How are States represented in the House of Representatives (i.e. seats)? | | |
| d. What powers are specific to the House of Representatives? | | |
| e. What are the formal job requirements for the Senate? (3) | | |
| i. | ii. | iii. |
| ii. | iii. | iv. |
| f. What is the term length for a Senator? | | |
| g. How are States represented in the Senate (i.e. seats)? | | |
| h. What powers are specific to the Senate? | | |
| i. What is the Vice President's role in the Senate? | | |
| j. What determines when, where, and how Congressional elections are held? | | |
| k. Revenue bills always originate in which house? | | |
| l. According to the Constitution, what two actions can the President take on a bill? | | |
| i. | ii. | |
| m. With what two methods can a law be passed without the President's signature? | | |
| i. | ii. | |
| n. List the expressed powers of Congress, found in Article I, section 8. (18) | | |
| i. | iii. | v. |
| ii. | iv. | vi. |

- | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|
| vii. | xi. | xv. |
| viii. | xii. | xvi. |
| ix. | xiii. | xvii. |
| x. | xiv. | xviii. |

o. List the powers denied to Congress, found in Article I, section 9. (8)

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|------|-----|-------|
| i. | iv. | vii. |
| ii. | v. | viii. |
| iii. | vi. | |

p. List the powers denied to the States, found in Article I, section 10. (8)

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|------|-----|-------|
| i. | iv. | vii. |
| ii. | v. | viii. |
| iii. | vi. | |

2. Article II*

- a. What is the length of a presidential term?
- b. Describe how the President is chosen.
- c. If no presidential candidate receives a majority of Electoral College votes, how is the President chosen?
- d. What are the formal job requirements for the President? (3)

i.	ii.	iii.
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- e. If for any reason the President cannot maintain the duties as President, who takes over the position?
- f. List the powers the Constitution grants the President. (12)

i.	v.	ix.
ii.	vi.	x.
iii.	vii.	xi.
iv.	viii.	xii.
- g. How can Presidents, Vice Presidents, and other civil officers of the U.S. be removed from office?

3. Article III*

- a. What bodies exercise the nation's judicial power?
- b. In what kinds of cases does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction? (2)

i.	ii.
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- c. Who appoints and confirms federal judges and how long do federal judges hold office?

4. Article IV*

- a. Explain the Full Faith and Credit Clause (Article IV, section 1) **in your own words**.
- b. Summarize Article IV, section 2 **in your own words**.
- c. What two restrictions does the Constitution place on the creation of new States?

i.	ii.
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- d. What obligations does each state have to the other states? (3)

i.	ii.	iii.
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5. Article V*

- a. How can a constitutional amendment be proposed? (2)
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - b. How can a proposed amendment be ratified? (2)
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
- 6. Article VI***
- a. What does the Constitution describe as the “supreme law of the land” (The Supremacy Clause)? (3)
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - b. What job requirement does the Constitution prevent from being applied to public offices and federal employment?

Assignment #3

Use the websites listed below to create flashcards for the following terms. On the FRONT of the card, put the WORD. On the REVERSE, list the DEFINITION of the term, an EXAMPLE of the term, and a description of the SIGNIFICANCE of the term to the example. Each of these terms are central to AP Comparative Government and Politics, and will be referenced throughout the course. We will continue to add to your vocab list and will have a large vocab quiz later in the year. Your work **MUST** be hand-written on 3X5 notecards.

Worth: 20 points total.

Helpful Websites:

- <http://www.nelson.com/common/polisci/glossary.html>
- http://www.auburn.edu/~johnspm/gloss/political_science
- <http://www2.cruzio.com/~zdino/psychology/political.science.glossary.htm#i>
- <http://www.socialsciencedictionary.com/>
- <http://www.indiana.edu/~ipe/glossary.html>
- http://highered.mheducation.com/sites/007248179x/student_view0/glossary.html
- <http://ocw.tufts.edu/data/58/727216.pdf>
- <http://guides.library.cornell.edu/c.php?g=31749&p=428352>

Political Science Terms:

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Civil Liberties | 9. Nation | 16. Rule of Law |
| 2. Civil Rights | 10. Parliamentary System | 17. Single-Member District |
| 3. Civil Society | 11. Political Culture | 18. Sovereignty |
| 4. Cleavage | 12. Political Efficacy | 19. State |
| 5. Federalism (Federation) | 13. Presidential System | 20. Unitary System |
| 6. Head of Government | 14. Proportional Representation | |
| 7. Head of State | | |
| 8. Judicial Review | 15. Regime | |