

AP US Government and Politics 2022-23

Summer Assignment (Due Friday, September 16 – counts as first test grade of the year)

Formatting and Submission Instructions:

Your summer assignment consists of three parts: vocabulary, Supreme Court case profiles, and current events. The assignment is worth a total of 300 points, but there are extra points built in, so you can earn bonus points if you complete everything.

All parts of the assignment will be submitted via Schoology (once you have access to the course), and you can contact me via email (welzc@springfieldpublicschools.com) any time throughout the summer for help, or for clarification on any part of the assignment. If you complete the assignment in Office 365, you'll also be able to share your work with me if you would like feedback before submitting it. I will be able to show you how to submit on Schoology when we get back to school. **I WILL NOT ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS THROUGH EMAIL.**

All parts of the assignment **must be digitally submitted** (typed or "scanned" with a phone or your laptop), and are due on **Friday, September 16**. Bonus points will be awarded to students that submit the assignment by the first day of class. If you don't have a computer with internet access, there are computers for public use at all of the branches of the Springfield Public Library, or you can contact me for further arrangements. I will do my best to be accommodating.

This is an **INDIVIDUAL** assignment. All parts must be your own original work. **Copied or improperly cited work will receive no credit, and may result in disciplinary action.** This policy stands throughout the course.

Assignment Rubric

Complete the self-assessment column below by choosing a score to indicate what you think you deserve for each category:

Criteria	Self-Assessment	Score			
Vocabulary (Earn up to 100 points) (+12 bonus)		Yes		No	
Completeness (number of terms are defined – one point each)	1 point each	____ / 100 pts.			
Bonus: Accuracy (definitions are correct and contextual)	4 3 2 1 0	12	9	6	3
Supreme Court Case Profiles (150 points – up to 200 points)		Yes		No	
Completeness (profiles are complete – 6 points per case)	# of cases ____	x 6 = ____ / 90 pts			
Overall Accuracy of Cases		4	3	2	1
(*possible points off if at least 15 cases are not completed)	4 3 2 1 0	60	45	30	15
Bonus: 4 points for each additional ACCURATE case – over 15	# of cases ____	x 4 = ____			
Current Articles (50 points – 5 articles @10 points each)		Yes		No	
Completeness (Required information is provided for all 12 articles)	Yes No	2		0	
Summary (Article is accurately summarized)	4 3 2 1 0	8	6	4	2
(Extra Credit for additional articles)	Current Articles Section Total:				
Bonus Items (up to 30 additional points)		Yes		No	
Join the Remind Group	Bonus	+10			
Digitally sign your AP contract	Bonus	+10			
Download the Interactive Constitution App (if you have a phone)	Bonus	+10			
Total Points: 300 points					

4 = Exemplary 3 = Proficient 2 = Adequate 1 = Inadequate 0 = Not evident/Not completed

Final Grade: _____

Part 1 – Vocabulary

In this portion of the assignment, you'll define key terms that we will use frequently throughout the course.

DIRECTIONS: Define the terms on the following page as they relate to United States Government and politics (**please number your list**). If you already are familiar with the word, you can use your own definition (and it doesn't have to be long, just correct – synonyms are acceptable). It is also okay to utilize Google's definition tool (type "define [word] into a google search field), but **please steer clear of websites like yahoo.answers and wiki.answers, etc.**). If you use exact definitions, you must cite your sources. Please make sure you use a definition that is easily understandable (**if you don't understand the definition, it won't help you to understand the word**).

KEEP A COPY OF YOUR VOCABULARY LIST! It will be helpful to refer to throughout the year.

Grading: Each term is worth 1 point. You can also earn up to 12 bonus points for the quality of your definitions (completeness & accuracy).

VOCABULARY LIST		
1. Limited Government	36. Law	71. Political culture
2. Natural Rights	37. Regulation	72. Political socialization
3. Social Contract	38. National	73. Core values
4. Popular Sovereignty	39. State	74. Individualism
5. Representative Democracy	40. Bicameral	75. Free enterprise
6. Participatory Democracy	41. Constituency (or constituent)	76. Rule of law
7. Pluralist Democracy	42. Coalition	77. Globalization
8. Elite Democracy	43. Filibuster	78. Fiscal
9. Constitution	44. Cloture	79. Equality
10. Power	45. Quorum	80. Equity
11. Government	46. Treaty	81. Political polarization
12. Federalism	47. Discretionary spending	82. Suffrage
13. Republic	48. Partisan	83. Efficacy
14. Faction	49. Ideology	84. Referendum
15. Ex post facto law	50. Apportion (or apportionment)	85. Recall
16. Bill of attainder	51. Census	86. Initiative
17. Electoral College	52. Redistricting	87. Primary (elections)
18. Amendment	53. Policy	88. Caucus
19. Ratification	54. Veto	89. Majority
20. Checks and balances	55. Ambassador	90. Plurality
21. Separation of powers	56. Executive	91. Delegate
22. Impeachment	57. Legislative	92. Lobbying
23. Exclusive powers	58. Judiciary	93. Incumbent
24. Concurrent powers	59. Bureaucracy	94. Media bias
25. Revenue	60. Jurisdiction	95. Adversarial
26. Expenditure	61. Agency	96. Electorate
27. Budget	62. Patronage	97. Civic engagement
28. Mandate	63. Civil rights	98. Affiliation
29. Commerce	64. Civil liberties	99. Linkage institution
30. Reserved powers	65. Arbitrary	100. Media
31. Enumerated powers	66. Secular	
32. Implied powers	67. Infringe (or infringement)	
33. Inherent powers	68. Due process	
34. Sovereignty	69. Impartial	
35. Statute	70. Demographics	

Part 2 – Supreme Court Case Profiles

For this portion of the assignment, you will become familiar with some of the basics of some of the core Supreme Court cases that we will be learning about in more depth this year. You'll want to keep this list as a reference. You don't need to be an expert on the cases, but you should have a basic idea about the arguments and decisions of each.

Directions: Using the search tool on <https://www.oyez.org/> look up each of the following Supreme Court cases (we're going to be working with all of these this year – if you do them all now, you can get up to 50 bonus points on the summer assignment. For each case, complete the following: **(*D, E, and F MUST BE IN YOUR OWN WORDS)**

- A. Name of the case
- B. Year of the case
- C. Constitutional Question brought up by the case (what was being challenged?)
- D. Background information: What's the case about?
- E. Opinion of the Court and results – what did they decide? If available, what impact did this precedent have?
- F. BONUS – discuss current issues in which this case has come up, and explain how it applies.

List of Cases to Choose from: (CHOOSE 15, do all 20 for bonus points)

1. McCulloch v. Maryland
2. United States v. Lopez
3. Engel v. Vitale
4. Wisconsin v. Yoder
5. Tinker v. Des Moines
6. New York Times v. United States
7. Schenck v. United States
8. Gideon v. Wainwright
9. Roe v. Wade
10. McDonald v. Chicago
11. Brown v. Board of Education
12. Citizens United v. FEC
13. Baker v. Carr
14. Shaw v. Reno
15. Marbury v. Madison
16. Heart of Atlanta v. United States
17. Gitlow v. New York
18. Obergefell v. Hodges
19. Mapp v. Ohio
20. Texas v. Johnson

Part 3 – Current Articles

In this part of the assignment, you'll begin to develop the skills needed to be an informed and engaged participant in US political culture. This means knowing how and where to find reputable news sources and developing the habit of staying informed about what's going on in the country.

Directions:

1. Watch or read the news, and identify a minimum of 5 current articles from reputable sources ([see list below](#)), dealing with any of the following topics in the United States
 - POLITICAL issues (examples: elections or campaigns, candidates for office, political parties, Congress, etc.)
 - ECONOMIC issues (examples: business, jobs, unemployment, taxes, social class issues, Wall Street, etc.)
 - SOCIAL or DOMESTIC issues (examples: civil rights, race relations, gender equality, LGBT issues, immigration, abortion, free speech, crime, prisons, etc.)
 - FOREIGN POLICY (examples: military operations, diplomacy, War on Terror, any US involvement or interest involving another country)
 - US SUPREME COURT (any current news report on a current or past decision or any of the Justices)
 - STATE or LOCAL issues (anything focused on state or local government – environmental issues, education, healthcare, ballot measures, etc.)
2. For each article, provide the following information:
 - A. Headline
 - B. Author
 - C. Source (name of publication)
 - D. Article URL/ link to the article
 - E. Type of article (News Story, News Analysis, Editorial, Op-Ed/ Commentary) *[see next page for explanations](#)
 - F. How the article relates to the country (political, cultural, governmental, economic)
 - G. Brief summary of the article (3-5 sentences is fine, try to address who, what, when, where, why, and why it matters)

Each article is worth 10 points (2 point for citing relevant article with all required information, 2-8 points for summary. You can include additional articles for extra points.

Suggested Resources

You can use print, video, or online articles from any of the following

- National TV news outlets: NPR, PBS, network news (ABC/ NBC/ CBS) *Steer clear of cable news like ~~MSNBC~~, ~~CNN~~, ~~FoxNews~~*
- Nationally read newspapers: New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe, etc.
- Magazines (print or online): The Atlantic, The Economist, Foreign Policy, etc. (but be wary of political bias/ slant – you can check the reputation of almost any publication at <https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/> or in the [Media Bias Chart 4.0](#))

Key Terms in Article Analysis**

Story Types

News story:

Definition: Standard, objective, fact-based reporting on a current matter of public concern. Author's name is identified in the byline. These stories usually represent the majority of stories in printed publications and on the Websites of mainstream news organizations.

Example: Associated Press. 2010. "N.J. transit worker who burned Quran sues over firing." Associated Press Wire Service. Available Online: <http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/news.aspx?id=23576>. Newark, N.J.: Nov.8.

News analysis:

Definition: Similar to a news story, but also includes some analysis by the reporter based on the facts. The reporter does not take a definitive stand on the issues addressed in the article. Author's name is identified in the byline. These stories are less frequent and often appear in the aftermath of a later event when the author is able to look back and offer additional perspective.

Example: Preston, Julia. 2010. "Democrats Reframe Debate on Immigration." *New York Times*. Available Online: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/01/us/politics/01immig.html>. NY: April 30.

Editorial:

Definition: Opinion-based articles that take a definitive stand on major issues of public concern with the intent of persuading the reader to adopt their stated position. The authors are from the media outlet's editorial board and are not identified individually in the editorial's byline. These articles typically appear on the second-to-last page of the front section of a print newspaper.

Example: Editorial. 2010. "Too Young for Life without Parole." Washington Post. Available Online: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/17/AR2010051703457.html>. Washington, DC: May 18.

Opinion-Editorial (Op-Ed):

Definition: Opinion-based articles that take a definitive stand on major issues of public concern with the intent of persuading the reader to adopt their stated position. The authors are identified individually in the byline and may be regular contributors or experts who speak out on issues where they have special insights. These articles typically appear on the last page of the front section of a print newspaper.

Example: Healy, Shawn. "What's Happened to Free Speech?" *Chicago Tribune*. Available Online: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2009-04-13/news/0904120081_1_boston-college-academic-freedom-william-ayers. Chicago: April 13, 2009.

Other key terms

Byline: Name of the author or authors of an article.

Source: An individual or organization that provides information to a reporter.

Off the record: A source that provides background information for a story, but asks the reporter to keep this information confidential.

Anonymous source: A source that speaks on the record and can be quoted in a story, but asks that his or her identity is kept confidential.

Objectivity: Journalistic standard that requires news presentation of facts in a story without bias. This is accomplished by telling all sides of the story.

Bias: Occurs when personal opinion influences the direction or tone of a story.

Social Studies Department Writing Rubric

Score	Criteria
4	The answer addresses all parts of the question All facts are accurate with clear analysis Includes multiple pieces of evidence or historical examples (facts, direct quotation or paraphrase) Spelling and grammar have been edited so the answer reads clearly
3	The answer addresses almost all parts of the question All facts are accurate with some analysis Includes some pieces of evidence or historical examples (facts, direct quotation or paraphrase) Spelling and grammar have been edited so the answer reads clearly
2	The answer addresses only part of the question Some facts are accurate with no analysis Includes one piece of evidence or historical example (facts, direct quotation or paraphrase) Spelling and grammar have not been edited so the answer reads unclearly
1	The answer does not address the question Few or no facts are used or are accurate Includes few to no pieces of evidence or historical examples (facts, direct quotation or paraphrase) Spelling and grammar have not been edited so the answer is difficult to read and understand
0	The answer is incorrect, or no response

Bonus Section:

- Register for the class Remind group (10 points)
 - Text @usgov215 to 81010 or [click here](#)
- Sign and return your AP Contract (10 points)
 - Read [the contract](#) and review with your parent/guardian, then [click here to sign it digitally](#).
- Download the Interactive Constitution App (10 points)
 - Submit a screenshot of the app on your phone

AP Course Contract (2022-23)

US Government and Politics

Teacher: Ms. Welz

Welcome to Advanced Placement US Government and Politics. By enrolling in this class, you have accepted the challenge of a college level class. This class will require hard work, dedication, and excellent attendance. This course is an elective, college level course. I will provide you with the tools that you need to succeed, but you will be expected to be responsible for your own success.

In this course, you will expand your understanding of US government and politics, including the foundations of American Democracy, interactions among branches of government, civil liberties and civil rights, American political ideologies and beliefs, and political and civic participation. You'll develop political science skills such as concept application, data analysis, analysis and application of primary sources and Supreme Court decisions, and argument development.

At the beginning of the year, you will be provided with a syllabus that will clearly explain the sequence of topics covered and provide you with a reading schedule. You will be expected to keep up with readings, both from a textbook, and from additional sources, which will be provided in class. Some resources will be presented (and all resources will be available) electronically, via Schoology. **You will be expected to monitor your Schoology account regularly for updates (which you will be able to do by setting up notifications and utilizing your school email account).** You will still be expected to do this if you do not have internet access at home, but there are options available – see me for assistance. Schoology and all Office 365 applications (including email) are available both in desktop and mobile formats.

Your grade will be based on tests, projects, homework/ classwork, and participation, and will follow the district-wide grading policy – 80% assessment (tests and projects) and 20% formative assignments (homework, classwork, participation). It is your responsibility to maintain a record of your assignments (which you can do in Schoology).

Communications for this course may be conducted electronically, either by email or Schoology, or the class Remind group (you can text @usgov215 to 81010 to join). Please list an active email address with your signature on this contract. (My default method of contact will be your **school email address**). My email address is welzc@springfieldpublicschools.com, and can be used whenever you have a question or concern. I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours.

By signing this contract, you understand that you will not be able to withdraw from the course without express permission from Dr. Tokarz (which will be unlikely). You are committed to taking the Advanced Placement Exam in May. If you do not take the exam, you understand that you must pay any resulting fees, and that you will lose Advanced Placement weight on your grade point average, regardless of your grade in the course.

I will share your summer assignment with you on Schoology (as soon as it becomes available) and will also email a copy to your school email address.

Once you have read the contract and reviewed with your parent/ guardian,

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO DIGITALLY SIGN THE FORM.](#)

You do not need to submit a physical copy of this contract.