

AP GOVERNMENT/ GOVERNMENT SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

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AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND U.S. GOVERNMENT

Both U.S. Government and AP U.S. Government will have to complete the following task:

Read the news! (and keep a news journal.)

- Choose ***ONE*** political issue to follow over the course of the summer. Choose something that you are interested in! Some possible issues are: the coronavirus, state abortion restrictions, the death penalty, corporate tax breaks, American relations with China, the 2020 presidential campaigns, the Green New Deal, student loans, restrictions on assault weapons, government financial support of industry, the federal minimum wage, unemployment insurance, requiring vaccinations, prescription drug prices, the opioid epidemic, election security, voter ID and voting by mail laws, etc., but feel free to choose any issue/topic that you would like!
- Each week (there should be 8 entries), write 50-100 words about how your topic was covered in the media and what is going on in regard to your topic.
- Each entry should include at least one **Chicago-style citation** of a news article that you read that week and used for your entry. Citations do not count as part of the word count. Articles should be sourced from reputable news sites; examining media bias can certainly be part of your response.
- The entries must be from eight **consecutive** weeks. Be sure to date your entries.
- Total writing should be approx. 400-800 words (please do not submit more than 1000 words total).

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT

Read and annotate *Gideon's Trumpet: How One Man, A Poor Prisoner, Took His Case to the Supreme Court—and Changed the Law of the United States*, by Anthony Lewis (this is a fascinating book about *Gideon v. Wainwright*, a Supreme Court case that established the right to an attorney for all people charged with a crime)

- ISBN: 0679723129
- The assessment for the summer reading will consist of graded annotations, a roundtable discussion, and an AP-style, in-class free-response question essay.
- The only work that must be done over the summer for the book is reading and annotating it.
- Instructions for Annotations
 - There should be an annotation at least once every 2-3 pages. It might be helpful to mark these with a post-it or sticky note. Annotations should offer commentary, pose a question, synthesize concepts, or mark crucially important information. Think of annotations as a conversation between yourself and the text.
 - Underline/highlight main ideas/important points.
 - Write questions/comments in the margins.
 - Dog-ear/put a symbol on the pages with the most important information.
 - At the end of each chapter, write 1-2 sentence summary of the chapter. Summaries could be written in the book or typed or written on a separate piece of paper.

CIVICS/U.S. GOVERNMENT

Read the play *Twelve Angry Men*, by Reginald Rose (this is a courtroom drama that details the deliberations among a group of jurors in a first-degree murder case)

- ISBN: 978-0143104407 (please get this edition) The commentary and introduction by David Mamet may help in writing your reflection paper.
- You will write a reflection paper, no more than 600 words, on the play, discussing the various themes of the play, the criminal justice system, and the right to a trial by jury.
- More detailed instructions for this paper will follow this summer. The reflection will be due the second week of school.