

Hello AP Government Students!

I am so glad that you decided to make this choice to take AP Government next year! I am excited to have the opportunity to teach you about one of the most amazing systems of government ever created! It is so unique and give so much richness to our nation. I believe you made an awesome choice because this class will not only give you the knowledge of our government to be successful on the AP Test. It will give you much more than that! This class is also designed to help you understand the importance of participation! Our government is much more than what you see on mainstream media. This year, we are going to learn all about the founding of our government, the innerworkings of our government, some of your basic rights as a US citizen, and political ideologies and views within the public!

You will find out very quickly throughout this course that (if you don't already know) that the backbone of our country is our Constitution. This document details all of the innerworkings and powers of our governments. We use this document as our guide to what we can and cannot do within our government. It includes your basic rights, and it includes the responsibilities of our branches of government. Now the beauty of this document is that it has evolved over our history, which we will see throughout the course.

That is why over the summer, I need you to know what this document says. This is a semester course. We have so much to go through and if you can know and understand what the constitution says, then we can spend more time moving through the course much smoother than if you do not. If you have a knowledge and an understanding of what the constitution states and you understand the debates, compromises and how this document came to be, it will significantly help us get the ball rolling on August 18th. Therefore, your first assignment of the 2021 AP Government semester, is to complete this analysis of the Constitution.

This assignment covers three parts:

1. Read *Decision in Philadelphia: The Constitutional Convention of 1787*. ISBN: 978-0345498403
- **This part of the summer assignment is optional**. This is a fascinating read that gives you a great understanding of what took place at the Constitutional Convention. If you want that background knowledge or a good summer reading book that is relevant, this is a good one.
2. Complete the attached document. **This part of the summer assignment is required**. There are two aspects of this document that need to be completed. This document will have you go through and analyze the constitution to make sure you know what it says. The second part of this document ensures you go through and understand all of the required supreme court cases. The attached document has clear instructions for you to complete. You will be quizzed over what this summer assignment within the first full week we return from summer break .

I look forward to an awesome semester! (your last two semester I might point out). I hope you enjoy your summer break. Please take the time to rest, recuperate, and most importantly, enjoy the time with family and friends.

Enjoy your summer! See you all very soon!