



Dear AP GOPO Students,

Welcome to class, it is your senior year! I am so pleased that you will be learning about the government and political system and environment with me. I am not a big fan of “busy work.” Our summer assignments will lay a great foundation for our first unit of study, and will allow you to become an informed and engaged citizen participant.

Enjoy your summer and stay engaged in terms of what is happening in our country and world. If you have any questions regarding the summer assignment on the subsequent pages, please do not hesitate to email me. The summer assignment will be due on **Aug. 18th**. This is the first Friday after school begins. You can of course, turn it in early that first week.

You must do it by hand. No typed work. You may write directly on these pages or a separate sheet of notebook paper.

Best regards,

Ms. Gemma Defee (gdefee-cooper@hisd.org)

You can find the link to the Constitution here, or on the main summer reading page on the school website:

https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/United_States_of_America_1992

Constitutional Scavenger Hunt

The US Constitution is and EXTREMELY important document for everyone in this country, especially APGO students. Understanding it will provide a great foundation for our class. Therefore, you will READ it, KNOW it, and LOVE it by the time you enter our class in September. *This work will be especially useful for Unit 1!*

Task #1: Structure of the Constitution – Read each article and summarize the general purpose or subject of the article. Then answer the analysis questions.

Article Number and Title	Summary/General Purpose or Subject
Article I	

Article II	
Article III	
Article IV	
Article V	
Article VI	
Article VII	

Analysis Question #1

Using Articles I, II, and III, describe how each branch can check the other branches.

Analysis Question # 2

Why do you suppose the founders designed our federal government this way?

Task #2 The Amendments – Briefly describe each amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and then answer the analysis questions.

Amendment	Brief description of the amendment (all parts)
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3) What are the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution collectively known as, and why were they added to the Constitution?

4) Identify the three amendments that were passed in the years immediately after the Civil War. What were the goals of these amendments?

5) Describe three amendments that extended suffrage to new groups of people and briefly explain the historical context/events that likely led to the passage and ratification of these amendments.

Task #3: Important Constitutional Clauses – The following are important clauses listed in the Constitution or the Amendments. For each, describe the clause in your own words, cite where it is located in the Constitution (Article #, Section #, Clause #) and explain why the clause is so important.

Constitutional Clause	Description and Citation	Importance/Significance
Full Faith and Credit Clause		

Commerce Clause		
Supremacy Clause		
Necessary and Proper Clause (Elastic Clause)		
General Welfare Clause		
Establishment Clause		
Free-Exercise Clause		
Free-Speech Clause		
Due Process Clause		
Equal Protection Clause		