

AP Government Syllabus

Course Description/Goals:

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.

Course TEKS/Objectives:

The big ideas serve as the foundation of the course and enable students to create meaningful connections among concepts. They are themes that become threads that run throughout the course. Revisiting the big ideas and applying them in a variety of contexts allow students to develop a deeper conceptual understanding. The big ideas of AP Government are: Constitutionalism, Liberty & Order, Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy, Competing Policy-Making Interests, and Methods of Political Analysis.

Course Outline:

[AP Government Course & Exam Description](#)