

Government and AP Government

Course Overview:

This course is designed so that the student will get an overall view of the functioning of the federal system. Emphasis is placed on comparative governments and differing ideologies, origins of the United States Government and development of the United States Constitution. Additionally, this course will cover the growth of our two party system, importance of minor parties and role of interest groups, the election process, and an in-depth look at the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of our national government. Current event discussions and outside readings are periodically included in the classroom discussion. Tests will be given that include information gained through lecture, individual research, and simulation activities. A comprehensive exam at the end of the semester will be given. This course is a requirement for graduation and will prepare students for the Ohio State Test given at the end of the year. A nominal fee may be assessed for a workbook, magazine or paperback. This course meets NCAA eligibility requirements.

AP Government (United States Government and Politics) Prerequisite:

Recommended Previous Enrollment in Another AP Course; Graded Summer Work / Reading Required. This year-long course is designed for highly motivated juniors or seniors ready to take on a college level course. Students enrolled in this course will be introduced and engaged in the American Government system. This study of government will begin with the history and foundations of the United States Government and end with active participation. Within this course, students will discuss and analyze the three branches of government, their interactions with one another as well as interactions with other political forces. Students will be expected to complete an assignment the summer prior to taking the course. Students can expect to spend time each night reading the textbook. Students can expect to be involved in class projects, group discussion and several activities throughout the year.

Throughout the course, students will complete a variety of activities that require them to analyze and interpret data, make comparisons and applications and develop evidence-based arguments. Students will be required to take vocabulary and chapter reading quizzes. Unit exams will be modeled after the AP exam. In addition to summer work, students will be required to take part in a guided political science research project or civics project. Most importantly, students will leave this class aware of their role as a citizen of the United States participating in democracy. This course meets NCAA eligibility requirements. A weighted grading scale will be applied. Participation in the AP exam is a requirement of the course and an exam cost of approximately \$90.00 is the responsibility of each enrolled student. Free and reduced lunch students may apply for fee waivers for the AP exam. See your counselor for more information.

Textbook:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) United States Government (Government)

Assessments:

Teacher Created Assessments

OST Government Assessment

AP Government Assessment

[CLICK HERE](#) for Government Standards and Learning Goals: