

## AP Government Summer Assignment

### Directions:

Define all of the following terms. Once you have completed your list write a 500 word essay using at least 20 of the terms below.

Essay Prompt: Pick one thing about the U.S. Constitution including its amendments that you think should be changed. What modifications would you make? Explain your reasons for making this change. Do any Supreme Court Cases in the list below support or detract from your argument?

### Due Date:

Email completed list and essay to [connellytp@gwcommunityschool.com](mailto:connellytp@gwcommunityschool.com) by August 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Late work will not be accepted.

#### **Foundations/Constitution**

Articles of Confederation (weaknesses, how were they addressed)  
Shay's Rebellion  
Great Compromise  
Supremacy Clause  
Necessary and Proper Clause  
Federalists/Anti-Federalist (Debate)  
James Madison/Federalist 10  
John Locke; 2<sup>nd</sup> Treatise on Government  
Principles of Constitution: Popular Sovereignty, Limited Government, Checks & Balances, Separation of Power, Judicial Review, Federalism  
Dual v. Cooperative Federalism  
Categorical Grants, Block Grants, Federal Mandates  
Devolution/New Federalism (Reagan)  
Bill of Rights  
1<sup>st</sup> Amendment clauses  
14<sup>th</sup> Amendment  
Due Process/Equal Protection Clause  
Selective Incorporation

#### **Amendments**

1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>

#### **Congress**

Gerrymandering/Congressional Reapportionment & Redistricting  
Pork Barrel  
Divided government  
Article I, Section 8 (powers of Congress)  
House v. Senate  
Checks on the other branches

Senate Confirmation  
Congressional Oversight  
Rules in House v. Senate (Committees, filibuster, cloture)  
Revenue Bills  
Role of Committees/Subcommittees/Rules Committee  
Congressional Leadership

#### **Executive**

Article II—Powers of the Executive  
Legislative Powers  
Foreign Policy Powers  
Checks on the other branches  
White House Staff  
Cabinet  
Attorney General  
Office of Management and Budget  
Honeymoon Period/Bully Pulpit

#### **Bureaucracy**

Cabinet  
Independent Regulatory Agencies  
Independent Executive Agencies  
Conflicts w/ other branches; limits on bureaucracy  
Roles/functions of the bureaucracy  
Characteristics of a bureaucracy

#### **Increasing Democracy in Government**

Recall Election  
Initiative Process  
Referendum  
17<sup>th</sup> Amendment

#### **Judicial Branch**

Judicial Review (when does it apply)  
Judicial Activism v. Judicial Restraint  
Warren Court  
Stare decisis  
Writ of Certiorari  
Rule of 4  
Jurisdiction  
Different types of court systems (district, appellate, etc)  
*Marbury v. Madison*  
*McCulloch v. Maryland*  
*Gibbons v. Ogden*  
*Plessy v. Ferguson*  
*Griswold v. Connecticut*  
*Roe v. Wade*  
*Wesberry v. Sanders/Baker v. Carr (One man, one vote)*  
*Gitlow v. New York*  
*New York Times v. Sullivan*  
*Brown v. Board of Education*  
*Gideon v. Wainwright*  
*Mapp v. Ohio*  
*Bakke v. University of California*  
*U.S. v. Nixon*  
*New York Times v. U.S.*  
*Lemon v. Kurtzman*

### **Political Parties**

Washington's Farewell Address  
*Not mentioned in Constitution*  
Two Party System  
Third Parties (Contributions/Limitations)

### **Interest Groups**

Strategies/litigation  
Iron Triangles  
Issue Networks  
PACs  
Media as an private enterprise  
Differences between interest groups and political parties

### **Elections**

Campaign Finance Reform  
McCain-Feingold  
FECA-Federal Election Campaign Act

Voting Requirements—Roles of states/federalism  
Role of PACs  
Electoral College (Reasoning behind it; criticisms; what if no majority)  
Open v. Closed primaries  
Frontloading  
Caucus  
National Convention  
Delegates  
Role of Media  
Incumbency Advantage  
Critical Election

### **Voter Behavior**

Political Efficacy  
Voter turnout (influence of demographics, why is it low, dealignment)  
Voting Patterns  
Democrats/Republicans (which groups support the two parties?)  
Influence of Media  
Motor Voter Law  
Partisanship  
Dealignment  
Polling  
Bandwagon Effect

### **Legislation**

American's with Disabilities Act  
Civil Rights Act of 1964  
Civil Rights Act of 1965  
FECA  
McCain Feingold  
Soft Money v. Hard Money  
Matching Funds  
War Powers Resolution

### **Federal Budget/Economic Policy**

Budget Process  
Entitlement Programs  
Mandatory Spending v. Discretionary Spending  
Fiscal v. Monetary Policy  
Role of the FED

**Misc.**

Pluralist

Elitist

Hyperpluralist

Majoritarian Politics

Client Politics