

AP US Government and Politics

The purpose of this course is to prepare the student for not only the AP Exam, but also give the student the knowledge needed for active participation in the American political process. Sharyland High School offers this course as a 90 minute semester block class and is intended to be the equivalent of the one-semester college introductory course in United States Government and Politics.

Method of Instruction:

This is a college style lecture course; you are expected to produce college level work. It will rely heavily upon **ASSIGNED READING** and LECTURE. As such, keeping up with the assigned reading is very important. Students are also invited to discuss current events as they relate to the course content at hand. Indeed, the better the discussion the better the course. While this is a course in US government, there is a comparative element to the course as well. Generally, students will have a deeper understanding of US government if they have the opportunity to compare US government to the governments of other nations.

Dealing with Data - Political science uses considerable amounts of statistical data. Students should pay particular attention to charts, graphs and data tables in the text. These will often be the basis of class discussion and will often appear on tests and other assessments.

Assessments:

- There will be four major exams. Each major exam is comprised with two free
 response questions and the multiple choice portion. Students will be need to
 interpreting data to answer both the free response and multiple choice questions.
 Additionally, the student must fulfill the Sharyland school district requirements regarding
 mid-term and final testing.
- Approximately once a week there will be an in class free response question to assess studentunderstanding of course content. If data is presented in the form of a chart, graph, or table during the week, in all likelihood that data will be the basis of the written assignment.
- Reading Quizzes are given BEFORE the chapter is discussed in class. Students are
 invited and encouraged to ask questions in class or seek extra help with regard to
 material they may not understand. I will not answer any questions regarding the
 assigned reading the day of the quiz. It is too late to ask questions on that day. Should
 you have questions over the assigned reading earlier than the night before the quiz, feel
 free to ask.
- **Daily Assessments** will be taken via the classroom performance system. Students are responsible for getting the correct "clicker" at the beginning of class and being ready for the first question when class begins.

In accordance with Sharyland school district policy the class grading system is as follows:

Miscellaneous Quizzes and Assignments: Maior Exams: 40% of Semester Grade 60% of Semester Grade

Texts:

Wilson, James Q., and John J. DiLulio Jr. American Government: Institutions and Policies. 10e 2006 Boston: HoughtonMifflin. ISBN 0618556621

Woll, Peter American Government: Reading and Cases 16e 2006 New York: Pearson Longman ISBN 0321329503

Supplemental Materials:

Topical articles based on current events selected major magazines such as *National Review*, *The New Republic* and The *Economist*.

Audio Visual Materials:

Live and taped broadcasts of C-Span, CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, PBS the news departments of ABC, CBS, and NBC Other approved materials located in the ENHS Library. There will be no feature films shown.

Classroom Rules:

- Be on time to, and prepared for class.
- Do not engage in any activities that disrupt the class.
- If you are absent and your absence is excused, you have three days to make up a missed assignment or test (unless you are entitled to more days). If you do not make up a quiz or assignment, I will use your grade on the next major exam in its place. If you do not make up a major exam I will use your grade on the semester test.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects credit upon their parents, fellow students, and themselves at all times.
- Students found to be engaged in academic misconduct will be disciplined to the maximum extent possible.

College Board Curricular Requirements	Topics/Content and Interpretive Data	Readings Resources and Data
	Foundations of Government: Forms of Government & Basic Concepts of Democracy The Constitution: Declaration of Independence, Articles of Conferedation, Creating the Constitution, Six Basic Principles, Formal Amendment, Informal Amendment	Wilson Ch. 1-The Study of American Government Four Theories of Who Governs Graphic p.8 Woll: 1 Second Treatise of Civil Government -Locke
	FRO: If the average citizens are fit to select their leaders (representative democracy), how can they be unfit to govern themselves directly (direct democracy)?	Wilson Ch 2- The Constitution
	The Problem of Liberty: Colonial Mind, The Real Revolution, Weaknessess of the Confederation The Constitutional Convention: Lessons of Experience, The Framers The Challenge: The Virginia Plan, The New Jersey Plan, The Compromise	What Would You Do? Experts Call for a Ban on Ballot Initiatives p.12 Massachusetts Spy: "Join or Die"p. 18

Curricular Requirement I	The Constitution and Democracy: Key Principles, Government and Human Nature The Constitution and Liberty: Antifederalist View, Need for a Bill of Rights, The Constitutions and Slavery The Motives of the Framers: Economic Interests at the Convention, Economic Interests and Ratification, The Constitution and Equality Constitution Reform -Modern Views: Reducing the Separation of Powers, Making the System Less Democratic, Who is Right?	Wilson Ch 3-Federalism North America in 1787, p.20
Constitutional Underpinnings of the United	FRO: How can any government be strong enough without threatening freedom? or is representative democracy possible without political compromise?	Articles of Confederation p. 21 Ratification of the Federal Constitution, 1787 p.31 Woll: 8 Federalist 39Madison
States Government	Federalism: Confederations, Unitary, Fiscal Federation, Grants, Mandates, Dual and Marble Cake, Reserved Powers and Growth of Federal Power Governmental Structure: Federalism: Good or Bad? Increased Political Activity The Founding: A Bold, New Plan, Elastic Language The Debate on the Meaning of Federalism: The Supremem Court Speaks, Nullification, Dual Federalism, State Sovereignity Federal-State Relations: Grants-in Aid, Meeting National Needs, The Intergovernmental Lobby, Categorical Grants V. Revenue Sharing The Slowdown in "Free" Money: Rivalry Among the States Federal Aid and Federal Control: Mandates, Conditions of Aid A Devolution Revolution: Block Grants for Entitlements, What's Driving Devolution? Congress and Federalism	Data Table 3.1 SomeState and Local Government Lobbies inWashington Data Figure 3.3 Federal Aid to State and Local Governments 1980-2000 Data Figure 3.4 Devolution and Child Welfare Spending in Four States, 1995-1999 Data Figure 3.5 Devolution in the Polls: The States over Washington Test 1 Over Chapters 1,2, &3 with Data Interpretation
	FRO: How has America's federal system changed sine the first days of the Republic?	Wilson Ch 4: American Political Culture
Curricular Requirement II	American Politcal Culture: Origins, "American" Values, Mistrust of Government Political Culture: The Political System, The Economic System Comparing America with Other Nations: Political System, Economic System, The Role of Religion The Sources of Political Culture: The Culture War Mistrust of Government Political Efficacy	Table 4.5 Public Torelance of Advocates of Unpopular Ideas Figure 4.5 Changes in Levels of Politcal Tolerance
Political Beliefs	Political Tolerance FRQ: How has American plitical cultue chaned overt the past hundred years? How does it differ from the political culture of other democratic nations?	Wilson Ch 5: Public Opinion Table 5,2 Religious Orientation of
and Behavior	Political Opinion and Ideologies: Formation, Political Socialization – Agents, Social Divisions –Race Class and Other, Measuring Public Opinion, Liberal, Conservative, Populist, Liberarian, Socialist	White Voters, 1996 Table 5.3 Differences in Political Views of Men and Women
	What is Public Opinion? The Origins of Political Attitudes: The Role of the Family, Religion, The Gender Gap, Schooling and Information, Cleavages in Public Opinion,	Table 5.4 The Changing College Student Table 5.5 African American and
	Social Class, Race and Ethnicity, Region Political Ideology: Consistent Attitudes, What Do Liberalism and Conservativism Mean? Various Categories, Analyzing Consistency, Political Elites, Is there a "New	White Opinion Figure 5.3 Ideological Self Identification, 1976-1999
	Class"? Political Elites, Public Opinion, and Public Policy	Table 5.6 How Liberals and Conservatives Differ

FRQ: What is political ideology, and to what extent are ideological differences reflected in political behavior? or According to the Framers of the Constitution, what, aif any, part should public opinion play in

Major Exam 1

Political Elites, Public Opinion, and Public Policy

	America's representative democracy?	T
<u> </u>	Political Participation: Voting, Voting Statistics, Who Gets to Vote –	Wilson Ch 6: Politcal Participation
Curricular Requirement	Constitutional Amendments, Voting Rights Act, Registration –effects, MotorVoter, forms of Participation other than voting, Participation in the US vs other Liberal Democracies	Data Table 6.1: Two Ways of Calculating Voter Turnout
III		1996-2001 Elections, Selected Countries
		Woll: 10 Federalist -Madison
Political Parties,	A Closer Look at Nonvoting The Rise of the American Electorate From State to Federal Control,	Data Table 6.2: Voter Registration in the South
Interest Groups and Mass Media	Who Participates in Politics?Froms of Participation,The Causes of Participation, The Meaning of Participation Rates	Data Figure 6.2: Voter Participation in Presidential Elections, 1860-2000
	FRO: What role did the Framers of theConstitution believe average citizens should play in America's representative democracy? or Why do	Data Figure 6.3 Voter Turnout in Presidential Election
	some people participate in politics at higher rates than others?	Test Over Participation
	Political Parties: "Factions", Origins, Organization, Informal Groups (three headed beast), SMD vs. PR French Two Ballot System, "Glory Days"/Decline, Political Machines, Bossism (Patron/Client), 3 rd Parties,	Wilson Ch 7: Political Parties Data Figure 7.1 Decline in Party Identification, 1952-2000
	Parties, Parties in other Liberal Democracies, Parties in Non-Democractic Systems.	Data Figure 7.2 Trends inSplit- Ticket Voting for President and Congress, 1920-1996
Curricular Requirement III	Parties -Here and Abroad: Political Culture The Rise and Decline of Political Party The Founding, The Jacksonians, The Civil War & Sectionalism, The Era of Reform	Data Table 7.2 The Rise of Republican Politics in the South, 1956-2002
Political Parties,	The National Party Structure Today: National Conventions State and Local Parties The Two Party System	Woll: 29 Toward A More Responsible Two Party System – Committee on Political Parties
Interest Groups and Mass Media	Minor Parties Nominating a President: Are the Delegates Representative of the Voters? Who Votes in Primaries? Who Are the New Delegates? Parties Versus Voters	Major Exam 2
	Elections: Types, Strategies, Financing (McCain/Feingold), Soft Money, 527s, Elections and the Media, Incumbency Advantage, Nomination, Presidential Nomination Process, Electroal College, Districting, Gerrymandering, Effects on Policy Formulation.	Wilson Ch 8: Elections and Campaigns
	Presidential Versus Congressional Campaign: Running for President Primary Versus General Campaigns Two Kinds of Campaign Issues, Television, Debates, & Direct Mail	Data Table 8.2: Sources of Campaign Funds: All House and Senate candidates in 1997-1998, by Incumbents, Challengers, and
	Money The Sources of Campaign Money, Campaign Finance Rules, The Effects of the 1974 Reforms, Proposals for More Reform, Money and Winning What Decideds the Election? Party, Issues, Especially the Economy,	Open Data Figure 8.2: Growth of PACS Data Figure 8.3: Economic Performance and Veto for the Incumbent President's Party
	The Campaign, Finding a Winning Coalition <u>Election Outcomes:</u> Party Realignments, Party Decline <u>The Effects of Elections on Policy</u>	Woll: 32, A Theory of Critical Elections -Key
	FRO: How have primaries and general election campaigns changed over the past century and a half?	Midterm Exam
	<u>Special Interest Groups:</u> Types, Purpose, Involvement in Electoral process (PACS), Lobbying –legislative/Regulatory Process, Iron Triangle,	Wilson Ch 9: Interest Groups

Curricular Requirement III	Issue Network, major Special Interest Groups in American Politics, Grassroots activities, Judicial "Lobbying" -Litigation and Amicus Briefs Explaining Proliferation The Birth of Interest Groups Kinds of Organizations Institutional Interests, Membership Interests, Incentives to Join, The Influence of the Staff Interest Groups and Social Movements The Environmental Movement The Feminist Movement The Union Movement Funds for Interest Groups Foundation Grants Federal Grants and Contracts Direct Mail The Problem of Bias The Activities of Interest Groups Information Public Support: Rise of New Politics Money and PACs The "Revolving Door" Trouble Regulating Interest Groups	Data Table 9.1: Dates of Founding of Organizations Having Washington DC Offices Data Table 9.3: Organizational Membership and Social Class Data Table 9.4: Spending by Political Action Committees, 1998 Data Table 9.5: How PACs Spent Their Money in 1998 Woll: 33 Politics by Other Means
Political Parties, Interest Groups and	Media: Print Media, Electronic Media, First Amendment (Press), Media's role in democractic societies, Political Impact of the Media, Presiden and the Media	-Ginsberg and Sheffer Woll: 45 Misplaced Obsession with PACs -Sabato Major Exam 3
Mass Media	Journalism in American Political History; The Party Press, The Popular Press, Magazines of Opinion, Electronic Journalism & The Internet The Structure of the Media: Degree of Competition, The National Media Rules Governing the Media: Confidentiality of Sources, Regulating Broadcasting Campaigning The Effects of the Media on Politics Government and the News: Prominence of the President, Coverage of Congress Interpreting Political News: Are news Stories Slanted?, Why DoWe Have So Many News Leaks?, Sensationalism in the Media, Government Constraints on Journalist FRQ: Can we trust the media to be fair and if so why do they focus on scandal?	Wilson Ch 10: The Media Data Table 10.1: Blacks, Hispanics & Women Congress, 1971-2002 Data Figure 10.2: Decline in Public Trust of the Media

College Board Curricular Requirements	Topics/Content and Interpretive Data	Readings Resources and Data
Curricular Requirement IV	Congress: Structure, Leadership, Key Committees -Roles and Power, "Power of the Purse", "How a Bill Becomes a Law", House vs. Senate - similarities/differences, Congress and the President -Relationship, Iron Triangle Revisited, Ombudsman, "Home Style" bs "Hill Style", Role of Political Parties The Evolution of Congress	Wilson Ch. 11 Congress Data Table 11.1 Blacks, Hispanics, and Women inCongress, 1971-2002 Woll: 59 Congress and the
Institutions of National Government	Who is in Congress? Getting Elected to Congress Do Members Represent Their Voters? Ideology and Civility in Congress The Organization of Congress: Parties and Caucuses The Organization of Congress: Committees The Organization of Congress: Staffs and Specialized Offices How A Bill Becomes Law Reforming Congress Ethics and Congress FRO: Why do the seats one party gets in Congress not match the vote it	Washington Political Establishment -Fiorina Data Figure 11.2 Percentage of Incumbents Re-elected to Congress Test Over Congress
	gets in the election?	ANGLE of Charles 12 The
	The Presidency: Roles and Powers (formal/informal) of the President, "Power of the Sword", President and Congress -Revisited, President and	Wilson Chapter 12 The

Curricular	Bureaucracy, Bully Pulpit, US President vs. Other Chief Executives in	Presidency
Curricular Requirement IV Institutions of National Government	Bureaucracy, Bully Pulpit, US President vs. Other Chief Executives in Other Liberal Democracies. Presidential vs.Parliamentary, Dual Executive in France and in Russia Presidents and Prime Ministers Divided Government: Does Gridlock Matter? *Is Policy Gridlock Bad? The Evolution of the Presidency: Concerns of the Founders *The Electoral College *The President's Term of Office *First Presidents * Jacksonians * Reemergence of Congress The Powers of the President The Office of the President: The White House Office * TheExecutive Office of the President * The Cabinet * Independent Agencies, Commissions, and Judgeships Who Gets Appointed Presidential Character The Power to Persuade *The Three Audiences *Popularity and Influence *The Decline of Popularity The Power to Say No. Veto *Executive Privilege *Impoundment of funds The President's Program Putting Together a Program *Attempts to Reorganize Presidential Transition The Vice President *Problems of Succession *Impeachment How Powerful Is the President? FRO: Should we abolish the electoral college and does the personal	Data Table 12.3 Partisan Gains or Losses in Congress in Presidential Election Years. Data Figure 12.2 Presidential Popularity Woll: 54 Presidential leadership and Political Parties –Mikis, and 50 Presidential Character and Style – Barber Test Over the Presidency
Curricular Requirement IV Institutions of National Government	Bureaucracy: Organization, Department, Government Corporation, IRC, Executive Agency, Patronage, Spoils System, Pendleton Act, Civil Service, Bureaucratic Responsiveness, Administrative Regulations Distinctiveness of the Ameriacn Bureaucracy Growth of the Bureaucracy: Appoinment of Officials *A Service Role *A Change in Role The Federal Bureaucracy Today: Recruitment and Retention *Personal Attributes * Congressional Oversight Bureaucractic "Pathologies" Reforming the Bureaucracy FRO: What happened to make the bureaucracy a "fourth branch" of American national government?	Wilson Chapter 13 The Bureaucracy Data Figure 13.1 The Real "Washington" Bureaucracy Data Figure 13.2 Fed Gov: Money, People, and Regulations, 1940- 1996 Data Table 13.1 The Rise in Top Political jobs Data Table 13.2 Minority Employment in the Federal Bureaucracy by Rank, 1995 Woll: 56 Constitutional Democracy and Bureaucratic Power -Woll Major Exam 4

College Board Curricular Requirements	Topics/Content and Interpretive Data	Readings Resources and Data
Curricular Requirement IV	Judiciary: Organization Powers, Judicial Review, Special Courts, Constitutional Courts, Selection of Judges, Appeals Process, Judicial Decision Making, Checks Judicial Decision Making, Public Opinion and the Judiciary, Judiciary vs. the Other Institutions, Common Law vs Civil Law Systems, Judiciary in the US Compared with UK and France.	Wilson Ch. 14-The Judiciary Data Figure 14.1 -Female Minority Judicial Appointments, 1963-2000
Institutions of National Government	The Development of Federal Courts: National Supremacy and Slavery, Government and the Economy, Government and Political Liberty, The Revival of State Sovereignity The Structure of Federal Courts: Selecting Judges The Jurisdiction of the Federal Courts Getting to Court: Fee Shifting, Standing, Class-Action Suits The Supreme Court in Action	Woll: Federalist 67 -Madison, and 60 judicial Self-Restraint -Roche Data Figure 14.3- Patterns of Public Confidence in the Court, 1974-1998

	The Power of the Federal Courts The Checks on Judicial Power FRQ: Should judges be limited to interpreting what the law says?	(Topical Selections from National News Magazines)
Curricular Requirement IV Institutions of National Government	Public Policy (General): "What is Public Policy", Agenda Setting, Interaction of Policy making Institutions, Impact of Public Opinion, Policy Implementation, Role of SIGs concentrated benefits and costs, Role of Public Opinion. Setting the Agenda: The Legitimate Scope of Government Action; Making a Decision Majoritarian Politics: Distributed Benefits, Distributed Costs; Interst Groups Politics: Concentrated Benefits, Concentrated	Wilson Chapters 15 -The Policy Making Process Data Figure 15.1 A Way of Classifying and Explaining the Politics of Different Policy Issues
Government	Costs; Client Politics: Concentrated Benefits, Distributed Costs; The Case of Business Regulation: Majoritarian Politics, Interest Groups Politics, Client Politics, Entrepreneurial Politics; Perceptions, Beliefs, Interests, and Values: Deregulation, Reducing Subsidies, The Limits of Ideas FRQ: Do interest groups have too much power in making government policy? The Politics of Economic Prosperity: What Politians Try to Do; The Politics of Taxing and Spending; Economic Theories and Political Needs: Monetarism, Keynesianism, Planning, Supple-Side Tax Cuts, Ideology and Theory, "Reaganenomics"; The Machinery of Economic Policy Making: The Fed, Congress; Spending Money; The Budget; Reducing Spending; Levying Taxes: The Rise of the Income Tax	Wilson Chapters 16 -Economic Policy Data Figure 16.2- History of the National Debt Data Figure 16.3- Projections of the Growth in Federal Spending Wilson Chapters 17 -Social Welfare
	FRQ: Why does the government ever have a budget deficit? Social Welfare in the United States: Majoritarian Welfare Programs: Social Security and Medicare, Reforming Majoritarian Welfare Programs, Client Welfare Programs: Aid to Families with Dependent Children Two Kinds of Welfare Politics: Majoritarian Politics, Client Politics FRQ: Why are some government social welfare programs politically protected while other are politically imperiled?	Data Figure 17.1 SSI, TANF and foodstamps recipients 1980-1998 Data Table 17.1 Public View on Reforming Social Security

Curricular
Requirement
IV

Institutions of National Government Civil Liberties and Public Policy: Bill of Rights, 14th Amendment - Due Process-, Selective Incorporation, Major Cases, Warren Court

<u>Politics, Culture, and Civil Liberties</u>: Rights in Conflict, Policy Entrepreneurs, Cultural Conflicts

Interpreting and Applying the First Amendment: Speech and National Security

What is Speech?: Libel, Obscenity, Symbolic Speech Who is a Person?

Church and State: The Free-Exercise Clause, The Establishment Clause Crime and Due Process: The Exclusionary Rule, Search and Seizure, Confessions and Self-Incrimination, Relaxing the Exclusionary Rule, Terrorism and Civil Liberties

FRQ: Should it be allright for religious symbols to be displayed on government property?

Civil Rights and Public Policy: Constitutional Amendments, 14th Amendment -Equal Protection, Major Cases, Civil Rights Act 1964, Suspect Class, Strict Scrutiny, Reasonal Basis Test, Racism, Sexism The Black Predicament

The Campaign in the Courts: "Separate but Equal", Can Separate Schools Be Equal? Brown v. the Board of Education

The Campaign in Congress

Women and Equal Rights: Sexal Harrassment, Abortion Affirmative Action: Equality of Results, Equality of Opportunity Gays and the Supreme Court

FRO: Under what circumstances, if any, should numerical goals be used to ensure that students or workers are drawn from every racial group?

Foreign and Military Policy: Kinds of Foreign Policy
The Constitutional and Legal Context: Presidential Box Score,
Evaluating the Power of the President, Checks and Presidential Power
The Machinery of Foreign Policy

Foreign Policy and Public Opinion: Backing the President, Mass Versus Elite Opinion

Cleavages Among Foreign Policy Elites: How a Worldview Shapes Foreign Policy

The Use of Military Force

The Defense Budget: Total Spending, Choosing Weapons Systems What do We Buy with Our Money?

Personnel, Big Ticket Items, Small Ticket Items, Readiness, Bases The Structure of Defense DecisionMaking: Joint Cheifs of State, the Services. The Chain of Command

FRQs: If the Cold War is over; what kind of military force do we need? How can a democracy maintain enough secrecy to conduct a good foreign policy?

Wilson Chapters 18 -Civil Liberties

Data Figure 18.1 Annual Immigration, 1840-1996 Data Figure 18.2 Changing Composition of US Immigration, 1901-1996

Woll: Antifederalist Paper No. 84.

Wilson Chapters 19 -Civil Rights

Data Figure 19.1 Changing White Attitudes Towards Differing Levels of School Integration

Data Table 19.1 Increase in Number of Black Elected Officials **Woll 20:** Brown V. The Board of Education Miranda Case

Wilson 20

Woll The Two
Presidencies – Wildzvsky
Data Table 20.1 Popular Reactions
to Foreign Policy Crises
Data Table 20.2 How the Public and
the Elite See Foreign Policy, 1999
Data Table 20.3 Cleavages in the
Elite
Figure 20.1 Trends in Military
Spending
Data Table 20.4 US Military Forces
Before and After the Breakup of
the Soviet Union
Data Table 20.5 Attitudes of

Military and Civilian Leaders

Final Exam