

Macmillan AP Government Syllabus

Mr. Macmillan
macmila@gcsnc.com

Class Overview

Welcome to AP Government and Politics with Mr. Macmillan! In this course we will take a deep dive into the structure and function of American democracy. The United States has one of the oldest Constitutions in the world, and created a frame of government that is still in action today. Our goal is to understand how our government is set up, how it gets things done (or doesn't get them done), how people get into government, and analyze the ways the American people interact with and influence our government.

This is not a required course for graduation, however you can get college credit for completing the course and getting a 3 or higher on the AP Exam.

How to Succeed:

- 1) **Come prepared.** Come to every class on time. You need all materials listed below every class period.
- 2) **Complete your assignments on time.** You don't want late penalties!
- 3) **Review every day.** Use Quizlet, videos, and your notes to review.
- 4) **Ask questions.** You probably aren't the only one with that question!
- 5) **Phones:** keep them in your bags on silent. No music unless during independent work.

Classroom Expectations

1. **Be respectful** of your peers.
2. Put in your **best effort** every day.
3. **Take responsibility** for your own success.

Materials Needed

Here is a list of materials you will need to be prepared for class every day:

- Pen/Pencil
- Highlighter
- 2 in. 3 ring binder with 100 pages of notebook paper
- Folder
- 120 notecards
- Computer (provided by school)

Late Work Policy

If you need more time on your work, you need to tell me 24 hours before.

1. Your grade will drop 10% for every day it is late
2. After 5 days late, the highest grade you can receive on the assignment is a 50%

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Cheating Policy

If you copy your work from the internet or another student, you will receive an automatic 0% on the assignment. You will get a 2nd attempt to turn in original work for half credit.

Re-Do Policy

On all assignments that are not a test or quiz you can earn back half of your missed points. Re-do the assignment and make necessary edits based on feedback.

Extra Credit

Extra credit assignments will be posted to Canvas, and can help raise test and quiz grades.

AP Government Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement:

My student _____ (name) has shown me the overview for this class. I understand how to get in touch with Mr. Macmillan if I have any questions about my student's progress.

_____ Date: ____/____/____

Grade Weighting

Category	% of Final Grade
Class Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bellringers• Discussions	20%
Classwork/Homework <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Assignments• Homework• Reading Assignments• Vocab Quizzes	25%
Quizzes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content• Vocab• FRQ's and ACES	25%
Tests <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple Choice/FRQ• Projects	30%

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Grading Rubrics

Warm-Up/Homework Rubric

	Excellent	Good	Poor
Completion	Page organized properly, all warm-ups included, all tasks completed, all responses correct using complete sentences. (3 pts)	Page organized properly, all warm-ups included, all tasks completed. (2 pts)	Missing >1 warm up, tasks incomplete. (1 pts)
Quality	Responses show strong effort and are well thought out (2 pts.)	Responses show effort. (1 pts)	Responses lack effort or understanding. (0 pts)

Vocab Tables Rubric

	Excellent	Good	Poor
Completion	All sections of vocab table complete (5 pts)	<2 sections missing (3 pts)	>3 sections missing (1 pts)
Sentence/drawing	Word used in sentence/drawing that shows a clear understanding of word in context (5 pts)	Word used in sentence/drawing. (3 pts)	Word not used in sentence/drawing. (1 pts)

Reading Assignment Grading Rubric

	Excellent	Good	Poor
Annotations	Annotations include all three of the following elements: star for main point, highlighting important sections, explanations of how paragraphs or sentences relate to the main point. (3 pts)	Annotations include 2 of the following elements: star for main point, highlighting important sections, explanations of how paragraphs or sentences relate to the main point.	Annotations include one or less of following elements: star for main point, highlighting important sections, explanations of how paragraphs or sentences relate to the main point.
Responses	Responses are in original language and connect to reading (2 pts)	Responses are connected to the reading (1 pts)	Responses are not connected to reading. (0 pts)

ACES Writing Assignment

	Excellent	Good	Poor
Appearance	(2 pts) Writing clear, neat, and organized.	(1 pts) 2 of following present: Writing clear, neat, and organized.	(0 pts) >2 of following missing
Answer the Question and Cite Evidence	(4 pts) Question answered clearly with a strong argument, 2 pieces of evidence quoted properly and relevant to argument.	(2 pts) Question answered clearly, 2 pieces of evidence are quoted and relevant to the argument.	(1 pts) Answer unclear, evidence is quoted improperly and/or irrelevant to argument.
Explain Evidence and Summary	(4 pts): Explanations clearly connect evidence to main argument, summary connects back to central argument	(2 pts): Explanations connect evidence to main argument, summary present	(1 pts): Explanations do not connect evidence to main argument, and/or summary missing.

FRQ Rubric

	Excellent	Good	Poor
Completion	All parts of FRQ are answered using complete sentences that restate the question and provide evidence. (5 pts)	Missing 1 of following elements: All parts of FRQ are answered using complete sentences that restate the question and provide evidence. (3 pts)	Missing >1 of following elements: All parts of FRQ are answered using complete sentences that restate the question and provide evidence. (1 pts)

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Accuracy	All questions answered accurately (3 pts)	Majority of questions answered accurately (2 pts)	Minority of questions answered accurately (1 pts)
Organization	Uses the recommended number of sentences for each question, and clearly labels each question.. (2 pts)	Uses the recommended number of sentences for most questions. (1 pts)	Does not use the recommended number of sentences for questions. (0 pts)

<u>Unit</u>	Title (CED p.25) + # of classes (68 Days)	Topics	<u>Foundational Documents</u> (CED p. 30)	<u>SCOTUS Cases</u> (CED p. 32)
1	Foundations of American Democracy (CED p. 37) <i>9 classes</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ideals of Democracy 2. Types of Democracy 3. Government Powers and Individual Rights 4. Challenges of the Articles of Confederation 5. Ratification of the U.S. Constitution <p>Vocab Quiz #1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Principles of American Government 7. Relationship Between State & Federal Government 8. Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism 9. Federalism in Action <p>Test - MC + FRQ #1 on unit 1 content</p>	<p><u>The Declaration of Independence</u></p> <p><u>The Articles of Confederation</u></p> <p><u>Brutus No. 1</u></p> <p><u>The Constitution of the United States</u> (Bill of Rights & Amendments)</p> <p><u>Federalist 51</u></p>	<p><i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i></p> <p><i>US v. Lopez</i></p>
2	Interactions Among Branches of Government (CED p. 53) <i>14 classes</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Congress: The Senate and the House 2. Structures, Powers, and Functions of Congress 3. Congressional Behavior 4. Roles and Powers of President 5. Checks on President <p>Vocab Quiz #2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Expansion of Presidential Powers 7. Presidential Communication 8. Judicial Branch 9. Legitimacy of Judicial Branch 	<p><u>Federalist No. 70</u></p> <p><u>Federalist No. 78</u></p>	<p><u>Marbury v. Madison</u>,</p> <p><u>Shaw v. Reno</u></p> <p><i>Baker v. Carr</i></p>

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		<p>10. The Court in Action 11. Checks on Judicial Branch</p> <p>Quiz: Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances</p> <p>12. The Bureaucracy 13. Discretionary and Rule-Making Authority 14. Holding the Bureaucracy Accountable 15. Policy and the Branches of Government</p> <p>Test - MC + FRQ #2 on unit 2 content</p>		
3	<p>Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (CED p. 75)</p> <p><i>13 classes</i></p>	<p>1. The Bill of Rights 2. First Amendment: Freedom of Religion 3. First Amendment: Freedom of Speech 4. First Amendment: Freedom of the Press 5. Second Amendment: Right to Bear Arms</p> <p>Vocab Quiz #3</p> <p>6. Amendments: Balancing Individual Freedom with Public Order and Safety 7. Selective Incorporation 8. Amendments: Due Process + the Rights of the Accused 9. Amendments: Due Process + the Right to Privacy</p> <p>Quiz: Bill of Rights and Landmark Cases</p> <p>10. Social Movements and Equal Protection 11. Government Responses to Social Movements 12. Balancing Minority and Majority Rights 13. Affirmative Action</p>	<p>Letter from Birmingham Jail</p>	<p><i>Tinker v. Des Moines</i></p> <p><i>Schenck v. United States</i></p> <p><i>McDonald v. Chicago</i></p> <p><i>New York Times Co. v. U.S.</i></p> <p><i>Engel v. Vitale</i></p> <p><i>Wisconsin v. Yoder</i></p> <p><i>Brown v. Board</i></p> <p><i>Roe v. Wade</i></p> <p><i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i></p>

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		Test - MC + FRQ #3		
4	American Political Ideologies and Beliefs (CED p. 95) <i>11 classes</i>	1. American Attitudes about Government + Politics 2. Political socialization 3. Changes in Ideology 4. Influences of Political Events on Ideology 5. Measuring Public Opinion Vocab Quiz #4 6. Evaluating Public Opinion Data 7. Ideologies of Political Parties 8. Ideology and Policy Making 9. Ideology and Economic Policy 10. Ideology and Social Policy Test - MC + FRQ #4		
5	Political Participation (CED p. 111) <i>13 classes</i>	1. Voting Rights and Models of Voting Behavior 2. Voter Turnout 3. Political Parties 4. How and Why Political Parties change and adapt 5. Third-Party Politics Vocab Quiz #5 6. Interest Groups Influencing Policy Making 7. Groups Influencing Policy Outcomes 8. Electing a President 9. Congressional Elections Quiz: Elections 10. Modern Campaigns 11. Campaign Finance 12. The Media 13. Changing Media Test - MC + FRQ #4	Federalist No. 10	Shaw v. Reno Baker v. Carr Citizens United v. FEC

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AP Exam: Monday, May 6, 2024 at 8:00 AM