

AP US Government: This class introduces students 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.

About the AP Exam: AP Exams usually occur within the first two weeks of May and offer an opportunity to achieve college credit with a score of “3” or higher. The AP exam for psychology is structured like this:

The AP Comparative Government and Politics Exam assesses student understanding of the disciplinary practices and learning objectives outlined in the course framework. The exam is 2 hours and 30 minutes long and includes 55 multiple-choice questions and 4 free-response questions.

The AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam assesses student understanding of the disciplinary practices and learning objectives outlined in the course framework. The exam is 3 hours long and includes 55 multiple-choice questions and 4 free-response questions.

About the expectations of the class: The class activities and assignments are structured to hit on four key abilities:

- Analysis- Assessing and Summarizing
- Evaluation- the pros/cons and worth of something
- Application- seeing the relevance, being able to give examples
- Interpretation- Explaining the significance

These abilities are not unique to this course; effectively developed and used, they will enable you to be successful in any AP course and in any academic endeavor beyond it. You will need to be an effective/efficient reader and writer!

There are two main ways I assess in class: unit tests (which cover 1 to 3 chapters) and quizzes (which typically cover a topic or sections of chapters)

In addition, we use scenarios, in-class investigations, group discussions, and case studies (such as research articles) to develop understanding of Governmental concepts and theories.

Unit syllabi provide opportunities to apply concepts outside the classroom as well as help develop writing skills through short answer prompts that are completed over the course of a given unit.

There are three platforms we use to assist in instruction and assessment:

- AP Classroom
- Schoology
- Canvas

Again, I am honored that you are giving me the opportunity to teach you Government! If you have any further questions about the course and the opportunities it provides please contact me at bettsb@gcsnc.com . I look forward to seeing you in the coming year!

Bryson Betts