

2012 Summer Assignment: AP United States Government and Politics

Due August 27, 2012 in person

Assignment #1 will help you become more comfortable with the ideas and concepts that are essential in the study the U.S. Government.

Assignment #2 will get you in the habit of following current events; an important part of our course since current events provide good fodder for free response essays and papers.

Directions:

- All assignments must be typed and stapled in order with your name on the front page.
- Copying/pasting text will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic zero for the assignment. Put all information in your own words.
- The Summer assignment will count as a project grade.

AP US Government and Politics Summer Assignment Grade Rubric

Assignment #1: AP Government Scrapbook = 50 points

+

Assignment #2: Current Events = 50 points

Total Possible Points = 100

Assignment #1: Foundations of American Government

-You will create a United States Government scrapbook that categorizes the subject into different units. For each unit (1 page each) listed below, you must include 10 facts and a minimum of 3 pictures. When you are finished your collection will simulate that of a government textbook. You will be graded on accuracy, creativity, and overall aesthetic value. Units to be included:

- I. Constitutional Underpinnings
- II. Political Beliefs and Behaviors
- III. Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media
- IV. Institutions of National Government
- V. Public Policy
- VI. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Assignment #2: Getting in the Habit of Reading/Watching the News

Read and watch the news this summer and decide the top domestic policy news story and the top foreign policy news story based on national significance (the story's affect on the United States of America). The specific directions for this assignment are listed below:

- A. You need to write one-page describing what you feel is the most important domestic policy news story to occur over the summer.
- B. You need to write one-page describing what you feel is the most important foreign policy news story to occur over the summer.
- C. Additionally, you need to write 1-2 paragraphs describing the specific types of media you use most often. (i.e. TV, Internet, newspapers, books, podcasts, magazines, etc—be specific in this section).