

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS/ SENIOR SEMINAR BLOCK 2014-2015 Summer Preparation—Instructors Melissa Webster

Welcome to AP United States Government and Politics! I look forward to working with you this year to help you increase your political understandings of the US Government and prepare you to be successful on the AP Exam. You can reach me during the summer through e-mail at: MWebster @Everettsd.org Familiarize yourself with this website: <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com> Register at this site and explore the program, courses, and sample exams. The AP Exam for *Government & Politics: United States* is scheduled for May 2015

Throughout the summer collect responses to the following. These will be discussed the first week of school.

1. The Federalists supported the Constitution while the Anti-Federalists opposed it. James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay wrote a series of articles known as the Federalist Papers in support of the Constitution. The Anti-Federalists objected that the Constitution was class-based and ensured that an economic elite would control government. They also objected to the lack of a Bill of Rights. In response, the Federalists promised to add amendments to protect individual liberties. The first ten amendments to the Constitution became known as the Bill of Rights.

Examine the complete collection of the Federalist Papers at:

<http://www.law.emory.edu/FEDERAL/federalist>

1. Who wrote the Federalist Papers? What pen name did they use?
2. Select and read Federalist #30. What is the subject of this paper and who is the audience? How are the issues raised in the paper applicable to current debates on the subject?
3. Read Federalist #10. According to James Madison, what is the most dangerous threat to liberty? How can it be stopped?
4. Read Federalist #51. What does the author think about human nature? How should government be structured and why?
5. Read Federalist #78. According to Alexander Hamilton, why should courts have the power to declare laws unconstitutional?

(over)

2. Explore these links and make a list describing summarizing what you found:

<http://www.cnn.com/ALLPOLITICS>

<http://www.c-span.org>

<http://www.rollcall.com>

<http://www.americanpresidents.org>

<http://www.senate.gov>

<http://www.house.gov>

<http://www.democrats.org>

<http://www.rnc.org>

<http://lcweb.loc.gov>

3. Read over the Constitution (Google it) and study the 27 amendments:

Fill in the following outline:

Preamble _____

Fill in the titles to the 7 sections of the Constitution

- Article 1 _____
- Article 2 _____
- Article 3 _____
- Article 4 _____
- Article 5 _____
- Article 6 _____
- Article 7 ***Ratification*** _____

Fill in the titles to the 27 amendments to the Constitution

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ | 21. _____ |
| 2. <i>Right to bear arms</i> | 12. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ | 26. <i>18 years can vote</i> |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ | |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ | |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ | |

4. Study for a quiz over the 27 amendments the first day of school!

Textbook: *Government in America: People, Politics, and Policy*, Eleventh Edition. This companion website provides a wealth of resources for students using *Government in America*, 10/e. Students will find interactive exercises tied to text material, practice tests, research guides, and more:

http://wps.ablongman.com/long_edwards_government_10/0,7311,13163-,00.html

Have a great summer! See you in September!