**AP U.S. Gov. Syllabus**

Ms. Stephanie Baker

**What we will learn**

This course is designed to challenge students who are interested in advanced studies in government. Students study the history, institutions, branches, functions, electoral processes, and citizens' role in the governments of the local area, the state of Missouri, and the United States. The course includes an emphasis on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, as well as a study of the principles and provisions of the Missouri and the United States Constitutions.

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| **Semester 1** | **Ch.** | **Semester 2** | **Ch.** |
| Unit 1: Foundations of American Government | 1 | Unit 6: The Executive Branch and Bureaucracy | 12, 13, 14, 18 |
| Unit 2: The Constitution | 2 | Unit 7: The Judicial Branch | 15 |
| Unit 3: Linkage Institutions and the Public | 1, 6, 7, 8, 10 | Unit 8: Civil Rights and Liberties | 4, 5 |
| Unit 4: The Legislative Branch | 11, 13, 16-18 | Unit 9: Federalism | 3 |
| Unit 5: Campaigns and Elections | 8-9 | Unit 10: Review | Barron’s AP U.S. Gov. |
| Unit 11: Missouri Constitution (After AP Exam) |  |



**Academic Expectations/Mandates**

R-E-S-P-E-C-T - This includes respect for yourself, others, Ms. Baker and even the room. Respect yourself enough to bring a pen or pencil. Respect others enough to be quiet and listen when they are participating. Respect me enough to be on time and ready to work.

Academic Integrity: Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. If caught cheating, a zero will be scored for the assignment/exam and you will be referred to the office. We will also have a parent-teacher conference. Do your own work. Copying homework IS cheating; copying in-class notes is not.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class every day and be on time. The classroom door will be closed and locked after the bell. If a student is late, he or she will be admitted to class once the bell ringer has started. If a student is tardy three times, he or she will receive a warning and a phone call home. A detention will result for each additional tardy after three.

**Late/Make-Up Work**

Late: Most homework assignments are worth 5 points and will **NOT** be accepted late (except for excused absences). It is due at the beginning of class. We will go over this homework during class so it is imperative that you have it finished when you walk in the door. Any homework assignment over 5 points (I will let you know) will be accepted for a late grade.

Make-up: In-class assignments missed will be available in the baskets marked by the days of the week. The number of days absent will equal the due date extension. **Students are responsible** for gathering their late work.

Tests/Quizzes: If a student misses a quiz or test, he/she will have one week from when they return to school to complete the quiz or test during Academic Lab. Class time will not be used to make-up quizzes or tests. Again, it is the student’s responsibility to set this time up.

**Assessments**

**Required Materials**

* A three-ring binder will be necessary for organization. There will be periodic binder checks that count for participation.
* Binder dividers **or** tabs labeled by units.
* A notebook or loose leaf will be needed for notes and assignments.
* Highlighters of different colors will be needed for notetaking and assignments.
* *\*Recommended\** Barron’s AP U.S. Gov. & Politics. This is an excellent resource to prepare for the AP Exam in May.
* Google Classroom access. This is where students will turn in assignments and receive important class announcements.
* *\*In class\** Government in America AP Edition textbook

End of Course Assessment (EOC)–The End of Course Exam is required for each student. This will be administered at the end of the school year and will count for 10% of the students’ grade. This exam is required for every U.S. Government student in the state.

The Constitution Examinations – There will be two (2) constitution exams as required by the state of Missouri: U.S. Constitution and Missouri Constitution. Students must pass ***BOTH*** The Constitution examinations to meet state graduation requirements.

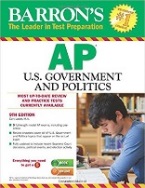
Unit Tests – In addition to the EOC and Constitution Exams, there will also be unit assessments throughout the year. Study guides and reviews will be available before test dates. Each test will include both Multiple Choice (MC) and Free Response Questions (FRQ) similar to those on the AP Exam.

Quizzes – Weekly quizzes will be given to review recent material. These will alternate between FRQ and MC. The goal of these quizzes is to practice with AP Exam testing format.

**AP Exam**

****Students have the option to earn college credit through the AP Examination. The AP Exams are graded on a five (5) point scale with a score of three (3) required to earn college credit. The AP United States Government and Politics Exam is 2 hours and 25 minutes and will take place on **May 10, 2018**. It includes two (2) parts with each part worth 50% of your score:

**1.** Multiple Choice Questions: 60 questions (1 point each; 45 Min; 45 seconds per question)

**2.** Free Response Questions: 4 questions (15 points each; 100 minutes; 25 min per question)

***✓ AP Exam Scoring***



1-2 = not passing

4-5 = proficient

3 = qualified

**Additional Expectations**

Cell phones/Electronics - Cell phones and other electronic devices should not be out during class. I recognize your addictions to games, but they are a distraction to your learning. Cell phones are permitted on breaks or for academic purposes. They will not be permitted for games, social media, or music (without permission). If cell phone management becomes a problem or begins affecting academic performance, phones can and will be confiscated for the remainder of class. **It is never okay to film or record** me or anyone else without their express permission. Please be a good digital citizen.

Bring your own device - I generally do not allow laptops/tablets in my classroom for note taking. If there is a special circumstance, please speak with me.

Bathroom - Ninety minutes is a long time to have to wait to use the restroom, so please feel free to ask, just find an appropriate time. However, using bathroom time for socializing is unacceptable. Please don’t abuse the privilege!

**Grading**

**1.** Multiple Choice Quizzes – Bi-weekly quizzes in AP format. MCQs will assess reading comprehension and content knowledge.

**2.** Free Response Quizzes – Bi-weekly quizzes in AP format. FRQs will assess written expression on the given content. Grammar, spelling and sentence structure will not be assessed.

**3.** Projects - Throughout the semester, students will work on individual and/or group projects, which will be graded based on specific rubrics. One such project is Independent Assignments.

**H**

97

**A**

92

* Independent Assignments - 100 points worth of Independent Assignments will be collected ***twice*** a semester.
  + Fall Semester = Tuesday October 10th and Monday December 4th (Both C Days)
  + Spring Semester = Monday February 26th and Monday May 7th (Both C Days)

**4.** Homework- This is an AP course, therefore students will be expected to complete work independently. Not all homework will be collected, but it is essential that all assignments are completed for success in this class.

**5.** Exams– This includes unit exams, final exams and the constitution tests.

**A-**

90

**B+**

87

**B**

82

**B-**



80

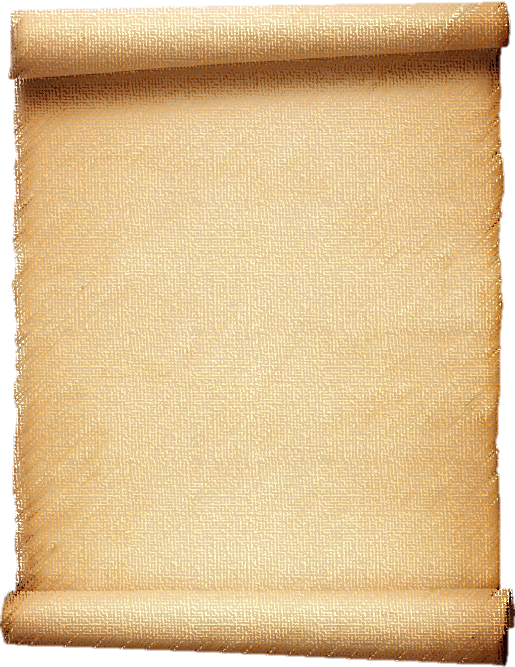
77

**6.** End of Course Exam ***(10%)*** – State exam covering general content knowledge. This is the only weighed category as it counts for 10% of students’ overall grade.

**C+**

**C**

72



***Please feel free to contact me at any time with concerns, questions or to simply chat about the success of your student! I am best reached through email, but can also be contacted by telephone after 2:30 PM. I look forward to learning with you this semester!***

70

**D**

**C-**

**F**

**@**

**How to Stay Connected**

Phone: (314) 415-5917

Instagram: Ms.Baker932

Room: 932

Email: sbaker3@parkwayschools.net

**D+**

67

62

**D-**

60