

# AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

## UNITED STATES AND COMPARATIVE (YEAR-LONG)

THE COURSE IN AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IS A COLLEGE LEVEL COURSE THAT TEACHES STUDENTS THE COMPLEX POLITICAL THEORIES AND SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS IN COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. STUDENTS COMPLETING THIS COURSE WILL BE ABLE TO THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT POLITICAL ISSUES AND APPLY THE THEORIES THEY LEARN TO BECOME ACTIVE CITIZENS GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD. THE COURSE FOCUSES A GREAT DEAL ON CURRENT ISSUES AND EVENTS, AND OFTEN DISCUSSES CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES IN A STRUCTURED ACADEMIC FORMAT. BY THE END OF THE YEAR, STUDENTS WILL BE PREPARED TO TAKE BOTH THE AP US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS EXAM AND THE COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS EXAM.

### UNITS

THE COURSE IS BROKEN DOWN INTO UNITS BASED ON THE THEORIES OF GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS. STUDENTS WILL LEARN THOSE THEORIES AND THEN APPLY THEM TO THE 6 COMPARATIVE CASE STUDIES (UK, MEXICO, RUSSIA, CHINA, IRAN, AND NIGERIA) AS WELL AS THE UNITED STATES.

1. INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2. STATES, SOVEREIGNTY, GOVERNANCE AND POWER
  - A. WHAT IS A STATE AND HOW DO THEY GET POWER?
  - B. HOW DO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES GOVERN?
  - C. HOW ARE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES ORGANIZED?
3. CIVIL SOCIETY, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND CIVIL LIBERTIES
  - A. WHAT IS A CIVIL SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP?
  - B. WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL RIGHTS?
  - C. WHAT ARE CIVIL LIBERTIES AND HOW ARE THEY PROTECTED?
4. POLITICAL PARTIES, CAMPAIGNS, AND ELECTIONS
  - A. HOW DO POLITICAL PARTIES WORK AROUND THE WORLD?
  - B. HOW DO CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS WORK AROUND THE WORLD?
5. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS
  - A. HOW DO EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES WORK AROUND THE WORLD?
  - B. WHAT EFFECT DO MILITARIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS HAVE ON POLITICS AROUND THE WORLD?
6. POLITICAL/ECONOMIC CHANGE AND POLICY-MAKING
  - A. WHAT ARE REVOLUTIONS AND COUPS?
  - B. WHAT IS GLOBALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT?
  - C. HOW DO COUNTRIES MAKE POLICY?

**NO  
SUMMER  
HW!**

**NO DBQS!  
ONLY FREE-  
RESPONSE  
QUESTIONS!**



## ACTIVITIES:



GROUP ACTIVITIES  
AND PROJECTS



MOCK TRIALS AND  
MOOT COURTS



POLITICAL SPECTRUM  
ACTIVITIES

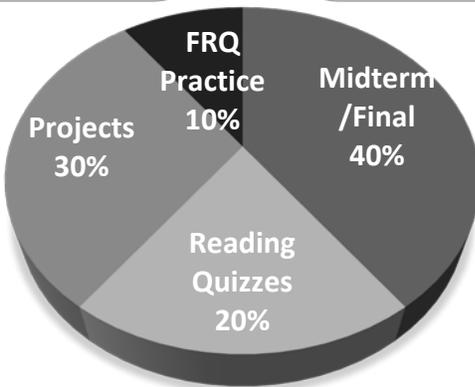


SIMULATIONS AND  
GAMES



DISCUSSIONS  
AND DEBATES

### GRADING SCALE



## WANT MORE INFORMATION?

GO TO MRS. CLARK'S AYALA WEBSITE,  
STOP BY F132 AND CHAT WITH MRS. CLARK,  
OR  
EMAIL MRS. CLARK AT  
[TAYLOR\\_CLARK@CHINO.K12.CA.US](mailto:TAYLOR_CLARK@CHINO.K12.CA.US)

## WHY TAKE AP GOVERNMENT AT AYALA WITH MRS. CLARK?



### Real-Life Application!

- You need to know your rights and responsibilities before college and careers!
- You also need to know about the world around you if you are going to live in it!



### Waive Government in College!

- Every college requires you to take US Government – if you pass the test, most colleges will waive it for you!
- Most colleges accept Comparative Government as an elective or GE requirement



### Become Leaders!

- This course teaches you more than politics, it teaches you how to affect change in society and beyond!



### Fun Activities!

- You won't have the opportunity to do fun activities in a Government lecture in college, so this is the perfect time to have fun while learning it!