

CHINO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Course Number	5222
Department	Social Science
Prerequisite	Teacher recommendation
Length of Course	Two (2) semesters/One (1) year
Grade Level	12
Credit	5 units per semester/10 total units - government
Repeatable	Not repeatable for credit
UC/CSU	Meets "a" history/social science requirement
Board Approved	November 6, 2008

Description of Course - A well-designed Advanced Placement (AP) course in United States (U.S.) Government and Politics will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the U.S. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. While there is no single approach that an United States Government and Politics AP course must follow, students should become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. Certain topics are usually covered in all college courses. The following are topics and questions that should be explored in the course:

1. Constitutional underpinnings of United States Government
2. Political beliefs and behaviors
3. Political parties, interest groups, and mass media
4. Institutions of national government
5. Public policy
6. Civil rights and civil liberties

Student Selection - The Advanced Placement Program (AP) offers two course descriptions and examinations in government and politics. Each is intended for qualified students who wish to complete studies in secondary school equivalent to a one-semester college introductory course in United States government and politics or in comparative government and politics. Students may take one or both examinations in a given year for a single fee. Each examination presumes at least one semester of college-level preparation. Admission to an AP course should depend on the student interest in the subject as well as on such formal credentials as an outstanding record of academic performance. Many highly motivated students with less-than-outstanding records have successfully completed AP courses and have obtained college credit, advanced placement, or both, through an AP Examination.

United States Government and Politics (1 Semester)

Standard 1 - Students will understand the constitutional underpinnings of the United States government.

- 1.1 Objective: Analyze the considerations that influenced the formulation and adoption of the Constitution.
- 1.2 Objective: Analyze the separation of powers.
- 1.3 Objective: Analyze checks and balances.
- 1.4 Objective: Analyze federalism.
- 1.5 Objective: Analyze the theories of democratic government.

Standard 2 - Students will understand political beliefs and behaviors.

- 2.1 Objective: Analyze the beliefs that citizens hold about their government and its leaders.
- 2.2 Objective: Analyze the process by which citizens learn about politics.
- 2.3 Objective: Analyze the nature, sources and consequences of public opinion.
- 2.4 Objective: Analyze the ways in which citizens vote and otherwise participate in political life.
- 2.5 Objective: Analyze the factors that influence citizens to differ from one another in terms of political beliefs and behaviors.

Standard 3 - Students will understand the political parties, interest groups, and mass media.

- 3.1 Objective: Analyze political parties and elections.
 - 3.1.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the function of political parties and elections.
 - 3.1.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the organization of political parties and elections.
 - 3.1.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the development of the political parties and elections.

- 3.1.4 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the effects on the political process of political parties and elections.
- 3.1.5 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the electoral laws and systems.
- 3.2 Objective: Analyze interest groups, including Political Action Committees (PACs).
 - 3.2.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the range of interests represented by interest groups.
 - 3.2.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the activities of interest groups.
 - 3.2.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the effects of interest groups on the political process.
 - 3.2.4 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the unique characteristics and roles of PACs in the political process.
- 3.3 Objective: Analyze the mass media.
 - 3.3.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the functions and the structure of the news media.
 - 3.3.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the impact of the news media on politics.
 - 3.3.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the news media industry and its consequences.

Standard 4 - Students will understand the institutions of the national government: the Congress, the Presidency, the bureaucracy, and the Federal Courts.

- 4.1 Objective: Analyze the major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power.
- 4.2 Objective: Analyze the relationships among these four institutions and varying balances.
- 4.3 Objective: Analyze how the institutions are linked.

- 4.3.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how the institutions are linked with public opinion and the voters.
- 4.3.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how the institutions are linked with interest groups.
- 4.3.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how the institutions are linked with the political parties.
- 4.3.4 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how the institutions are linked with the media.
- 4.3.5 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how the institutions are linked with state and local governments.

Standard 5 - Students will understand public policy.

- 5.1 Objective: Analyze policy making in a federal system.
- 5.2 Objective: Analyze the formation of policy agendas.
- 5.3 Objective: Analyze the role of institutions in the enactment of policy.
- 5.4 Objective: Analyze the role of the bureaucracy and the courts in policy implementation and interpretation.
- 5.5 Objective: Analyze public policy links.
 - 5.5.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how public policy is linked with political institutions and federalism.
 - 5.5.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how public policy is linked with political parties.
 - 5.5.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how public policy is linked with interest groups.
 - 5.5.4 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how public policy is linked with public opinion.
 - 5.5.5 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how public policy is linked with elections.

5.5.6 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how public policy is linked with policy networks.

Standard 6 - Students will understand civil rights and civil liberties.

6.1 Objective: Analyze the development of civil liberties and the civil rights by judicial interpretation.

6.2 Objective: Analyze the knowledge of substantive rights and liberties.

6.3 Objective: Analyze the impact of the Fourteenth Amendment on the constitutional development of rights and liberties.

Comparative Government and Politics (1 Semester)

Standard 1 - Students will be introduced to comparative politics.

1.1 Objective: Analyze the purpose and method of political comparison and classification.

1.1.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the ways of organizing governments.

1.1.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of normative and empirical questions.

1.2 Objective: Analyze the concepts, such as state, nation, regime, and government.

1.3 Objective: Analyze the political process and policy, such as what is politics, the purpose of government, what are political science and comparative politics, and common policy challenges.

Standard 2 - Students will understand sovereignty, authority, and power.

2.1 Objective: Analyze the political culture, communication, and socialization.

2.2 Objective: Analyze nations and states.

2.3 Objective: Analyze supranational governance, such as the European Union.

2.4 Objective: Analyze the sources of power.

2.5 Objective: Analyze the forms, purposes and applications of constitutions.

2.6 Objective: Analyze the types of regimes.

- 2.7 Objective: Analyze the types of economic systems.
- 2.8 Objective: Analyze state building, legitimacy, and stability.
- 2.9 Objective: Analyze belief systems as sources of legitimacy.
 - 2.9.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how religion is a source of legitimacy.
 - 2.9.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how ideology, such as liberalism, communism, socialism, conservatism, and fascism, are sources of legitimacy.
- 2.10 Objective: Analyze governance and accountability.

Standard 3 - Students will understand the political institutions.

- 3.1 Objective: Analyze the levels of government.
 - 3.1.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of supranational, national, regional, and local governments.
 - 3.1.2. Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of unitary and federal governments.
 - 3.1.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of centralization and decentralization of governments.
- 3.2 Objective: Analyze government executives, such as head of state, head of government, and cabinets, of governments.
 - 3.2.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of single and dual executives.
 - 3.2.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of what a President is.
 - 3.2.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of what a Prime Minister is.
- 3.3 Objective: Analyze legislatures.
 - 3.3.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of unicameral, bicameral, symmetric, and asymmetric legislatures.

- 3.3.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the organization of legislatures.
- 3.3.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the membership (representation) of legislatures.
- 3.4 Objective: Analyze parliamentary and presidential systems.
 - 3.4.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the institutional relations.
- 3.5 Objective: Analyze the types of elections.
 - 3.5.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of presidential elections.
 - 3.5.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of parliamentary elections.
 - 3.5.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of referendums.
 - 3.5.4 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of noncompetitive elections.
- 3.6 Objective: Analyze the types of electoral systems.
 - 3.6.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of proportional representation.
 - 3.6.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of single member district representation, including plurality, majority, and runoff.
- 3.7 Objective: Analyze political parties, including organization, membership, institutionalization, and ideological positions.
- 3.8 Objective: Analyze the party systems.
- 3.9 Objective: Analyze the leadership and elite recruitment.
- 3.10 Objective: Analyze the interest groups and the interest group systems.
- 3.11 Objective: Analyze the bureaucracies.

3.12 Objective: Analyze the military and other coercive institutions.

3.13 Objective: Analyze the judiciary system.

3.13.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the degrees of the autonomy of judicial systems.

3.13.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of judicial review, including the European Union in relation to states, and citizens.

3.13.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the types of law.

Standard 4 - Students will understand citizens, society, and the state.

4.1 Objective: Analyze the cleavages and politics, including ethnic, racial, class, gender, religious, and regional.

4.2 Objective: Analyze civil society and social capital.

4.3 Objective: Analyze the media roles.

4.4 Objective: Analyze the forms, modes and trends in political participation, including political violence.

4.5 Objective: Analyze social movements.

4.6 Objective: Analyze citizenship and representation.

Standard 5 - Students will understand political and economic change.

5.1 Objective: Analyze revolutions, coups, and war.

5.2 Objective: Analyze the trends and types of political change, including democratization.

5.2.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the components of political change.

5.2.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the promoting and inhibiting factors of political change.

5.2.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the consequences of political change.

- 5.3 Objective: Analyze the trends and types of economics change, including privatization.
 - 5.3.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the components of economic change.
 - 5.3.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of promoting and inhibiting factors of economic change.
 - 5.3.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the consequences of economic change.
- 5.4 Objective: Analyze the relationship between political and economic change.
- 5.5 Objective: Analyze globalization and fragmentation: interlinked economies, global culture, reactions against globalization, and regionalism.
- 5.6 Objective: Analyze the approaches to development.

Standard 6 - Students will understand public policy.

- 6.1 Objective: Analyze common policy issues.
 - 6.1.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of economic policy.
 - 6.1.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of social welfare policy, such as education, health, and poverty.
 - 6.1.3 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of civil liberties, rights and freedoms.
 - 6.1.4 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of environmental policies.
 - 6.1.5 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of population and migration policies.
 - 6.1.6 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of economic development policies.
- 6.2 Objective: Analyze the factors influencing public policymaking and implementation.

6.2.1 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of domestic factors.

6.2.2 Performance Indicator: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of international factors.