

“The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether heredity, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.” - James Madison, *Federalist No. 47* (1787)

Student: _____

Current Teacher: _____

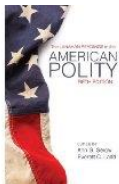
“Politics is a Good Thing.” –Larry Sabato, Professor of Political Science and Director of the University of Virginia’s Center for Politics

RE: AP US Government & Politics, Summer Work

Welcome to AP GoPo! This next year will be awesome, and I am excited to get to know you all over the course of the next year! Because of the importance of the Constitution in this course and the depth of knowledge you need to have it, we have some summer work. Please come by my room (849) to pick it up! **It must be handwritten (unless IEP, 504, or special circumstances cleared through me). It is due on the 2nd day of school, and we will have a test on the information from the summer work as early as the 2nd day of school.**

Things you need to do this summer:

- Constitution Scavenger Hunt—so integral to what we study all year long!! The packet is attached directly after this introduction sheet, and it will also be on the Starr’s Mill website in case you “misplace” it. (“Lose” is such an unpleasant word....☺!)
- Read an article regarding an issue in *national* government (President, Executive branch agencies, Congress, the federal courts—which includes the Supreme Court) and/or politics. Pick something of interest to you, and then summarize the article and what you learned from it. Include the who, what, when, where, how, and why! This is not a dissertation, and it should be about one page typed and double spaced. Bring it in on the first day of school & be ready to educate the class! (Hint: The Supreme Court issues rulings on the more high profile cases in the last weeks of June, and Congress is always trying to tie up issues prior to their August break.)
- Purchase a copy of *The Lanahan Readings in the American Polity, 5th Edition* and read #15 & #18 which are excerpts from James Madison’s *The Federalist 51* and *The Federalist 39* and *46* and take notes on the key concepts from these readings . You can get a copy for about \$17 (used) or \$39 (new) on amazon.com. If you have a financial issue regarding the purchase of this book, please come see me—we will use this book all year long, and we can get you one! Below is a picture of the book cover.



- Additionally, I am encouraging all AP GoPo students (if they are financially able) to attend the Washington, DC Close-Up program. It is a program lasting just over a week (January 18-24, 2020), and it costs approximately \$1850 (including transportation there, but not spending money). Students who cannot/ do not go will not be penalized, but it is a great opportunity to see government up close—hence the name of the program. Please see me if you have questions about it!

Please know that the summer work is designed to give you a great foundational start to the school year—and *the grades that come from this assignment are to help you!* This is college-level material and may be challenging for you, but I will usually check my email on June 3, 17, 24 as well as July 8 & 29 if you have questions—and feel free to answer class mates questions if you know the answer!

AP US Government & Politics Summer Constitution Chart
Mrs. Ruane (ruane.diane@fcboe.org)
The United States Constitution Scavenger Hunt

Name: _____

Directions: AP United States Government students should read the Constitution using the National Constitution Center's Interactive Constitution site (https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution?utm_source=web&utm_medium=homepage&utm_campaign=IC). Click on "Explore" and it will take you to the page which has both "Articles" and "Amendments" in the upper right hand portion of the page. Complete the following questions directly on this handout. It must be handwritten. This assignment is due on the second day of school. There will be a test during the first week of school on this material.

PART I: THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. Read each article of the Constitution. Summarize the general purpose or subject of each article *in sentence format* in the chart below.

Article I	
Article II	
Article III	
Article IV	
Article V	
Article VI	
Article VII	

2. Compare Article I with Article II. Which Article is longer and more detailed? Why do you think that this is the case?

3. Identify two powers denied from Congress in the Constitution.

4. How does the House of Representatives determine the rules of proceedings (the ability to have filibusters, riders, etc.)?

5. Identify two powers the Constitution prohibits from the states.

6. What eligibility requirements does the Constitution establish for members of the House?

7. What eligibility standards does the Constitution establish for members of the Senate?

8. What eligibility requirements does the Constitution establish for the President?

9. The powers of the Constitution that are specifically granted to the branches of government or to office holders are called expressed powers.

a. Identify two expressed powers of the President:

b. Identify the expressed powers of the Vice-President:

c. Identify five expressed powers of Congress:

10. According to the principle of checks and balances, each branch of the government must have the ability to limit the power of the other branches. Look at the first three articles of the Constitution and identify one of each type of checks and balances. Indicate where each power is listed in the Constitution.

A. A power that the executive branch has over the legislative branch:

This can be found in what article/section of the Constitution?

B. A power that the executive branch holds over the judicial branch:

This can be found in what article/section of the Constitution?

C. A power that the legislative branch holds over the executive branch:

This power can be found in what article/section of the Constitution?

D. A power that the legislative branch holds over the judicial branch:

This power can be found in what article/section of the Constitution?

E. A power that the judicial branch holds over the executive branch:

This power can be found in what article/section of the Constitution?

F. A power that the judicial branch holds over the legislative branch:

This power can be found in what article/section of the Constitution?

11. The court of *original jurisdiction* is the first court that hears a case. *Appellate courts* hear cases on appeal from lower courts. Although the Supreme Court functions primarily as an

appellate court, it is the court of original jurisdiction in certain kinds of cases. What are these?

12. According to Article I of the Constitution, who has the power to declare war?

13. What power does the Constitution give the President in the area of war?

14. What is the Electoral College? Which article(s) and amendment(s) discuss it? What do they say about it?

Part II: MAJORITY AND SUPERMAJORITY

The Constitution requires a simple majority for some actions and a supermajority for others. A simple majority means more than half, while supermajority requirements can involve 2/3 majority or $\frac{3}{4}$ majority. Most elections in the United States require a plurality, or the most votes, but not necessarily a majority.

1. Veto:

- a. What bodies have the power to override a presidential veto?
- b. What margin is required to override a presidential veto?
- c. Where in the Constitution is the veto power described?

2. Treaties:

- a. What body has the power to ratify treaties?
- b. What margin is required to ratify treaties?
- c. Where in the Constitution is the ratification power described?

3. Impeachment: To impeach means to bring charges against or indict an elected official.

- a. What body has the power to impeach the President?
- b. What margin is required to impeach the President?

- c. Where in the Constitution is the impeachment power described?
- d. What body has the power to convict the President of charges brought against him in the impeachment process and thereby remove him from the presidency?
- e. What margin is required to convict and remove a president?
- f. Where in the Constitution is the impeachment power described?

4. Federal Court Appointments:

- a. What body has the power to accept or reject a president's nominations to the Supreme Court?
- b. What margin is required to elevate a president's nominee to a seat on the Court?
- c. Where in the Constitution are judicial nominations described?

5. The Election of the President:

- a. If no candidate for the presidency wins a simple majority of the total number of electoral votes, what body has the power to elect the president?
- b. What margin is required to choose the president?
- c. Where in the Constitution is the Electoral College described? (hint: there are 2 parts)

6. The Constitution specifies a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority for just one process. What?

7. The Constitution has comparatively little to say about the structure and composition of the Supreme Court. Identify two aspects of the Court's structure and composition that the Constitution does not specify. (The Constitution does specify these two basic aspects of structure and composition for the other two branches)

8. List all parts of the Constitution that require a supermajority. For each, explain why you believe there is a supermajority requirement.

9. See Article VI. Explain the supremacy clause in your own words.

10. What does Article VI clause 1 say?

11. What does Article VI clause 3 say?

12. What are two ways that amendments to the constitution can be proposed?

13. What are two ways that amendments to the Constitution can be ratified?

Part III: The Amendments to the Constitution

The first ten amendments to the Constitution also known as the Bill of Rights, protects citizens from an abuse of power by the majority. In other words, no majority could vote to take these rights away. They are inalienable. Read each amendment to the Constitution and answer the questions below.

1. Outline the general purpose of the first ten amendments.

1st Amendment (5 things; hint: SPRAP)	
2nd Amendment	
3rd Amendment	
4th Amendment	

5th Amendment (5 things)	
6th Amendment (3 main things)	
7th Amendment	
8th Amendment	
9th Amendment	
10th Amendment	

2. What is the total number of Amendments to the Constitution?

3. Summarize the last amendment to the Constitution.

4. When were the first ten amendments to the Constitution ratified?

5. Which amendment(s) address and protect the rights of women?

6. Summarize what this/these amendment(s) say.

7. Which amendment(s) protect the rights of African Americans?

8. Summarize what this/these from amendment(s) say.

9. What are the 3 parts to the 14th Amendment?

10. Summarize the sixteenth amendment.

11. Summarize the seventeenth amendment.

12. How were U.S. Senators chosen before the seventeenth amendment?

13. Identify by number, amendments that
 - a. Extend individual rights
 - b. Extend civil rights (including voting rights)
 - c. Prohibited certain practices by states
 - d. Changed specific language in the Constitution

14. Summarize the twenty-second amendment.

15. Outline the sequence of events that occurs in presidential succession according to the twenty-fifth amendment.

16. Summarize the twenty-sixth amendment.

17. How many times does the word "privacy" exist in the Constitution (Articles/amendments)?

18. In the first amendment, what are the two separate clauses that detail religion?

19. What does each of these clauses mean?