

AP Government Summer Reading and Assignment 2013
Mrs. Camus

You have three summer assignments for AP Government:

1. *Hardball: How Politics is Played* reading and writing assignment
2. Current events project
3. AP Government Scavenger Hunt

The Hardball assignment will be due the first day of school, Friday September 6, 2013

1. *Hardball Summer Reading Assignment*

Read and complete the assignment on *Hardball: How Politics is Played* by Chris Matthews. The book is available at Barnes and Noble or can be found online, Amazon has the book for \$10.20, or you might try half.com or other used book sources. Be sure to get the “Revised and Updated” edition of the book with the purple and blue cover.

- a. Examine the political maxims from *Hardball* for current relevancy
- b. Pick four of the maxims listed below & explain them in your own words (at least one paragraph for the explanation.) Include one quote from each section that best exemplifies your maxims. Justify your quotation selection—why you chose the quote you did.
- c. Essay: In your role as a campaign advisor (if you are unsure as to what a campaign manager does—research it), which two maxims would you repeat to your candidate every morning during the campaign? Why? Which maxim(s) would you tell your candidate to ignore and why? Your essay should be at least two pages long. It might be helpful to have a real candidate in mind when you’re writing your essay—that’s up to you.

MAXIMS:

What’ve ya done for me lately?	Leave no shot unanswered
All politics is local	Hang a Lantern on Your Problem
Triangulation	Politics = Power
It’s better to receive than to give	Only talk when it improves the silence
Dance with the one that brung ya	Retail politics
Keep your enemies in front of you	The press is the enemy
Don’t get mad; don’t get even; get ahead	

There will be a quiz during the first week of class on *Hardball*. Be sure to know the following terms and people, as well the meaning behind the maxims.

Terms and people

Hardball	Niccolo Macchiavelli
“The Johnson Treatment”	Ronald Reagan
Positioning	Thomas P. “Tip” O’Neill
Pol	Richard Nixon
The Establishment	Richard Nixon
Retail Politics	LBJ
Patronage	Bill Clinton
Wholesale Politics	Jimmy Carter
Spin	Chris Matthews

Assignment #2: Current Events

Due Date: Friday September 6, 2013

Over the summer, or through the fall, you are going to follow current events and get a head start on understanding how government operates. You need to select six news articles, from six separate weeks, and write a reflection for each article. In your reflection you should include:

1. The impact of this event/decision on the US government.
2. The consequences of this event/decision (good/bad)
3. How the event/decision should have happened differently or why the event was correct, as is.
4. Why did you choose the article?

Please clearly address each item above in your reflection. Please attach the article to your write-up and turn it in with your reflection. You may print the article from the internet, however you must pay attention to the date of the article, the articles must be from six different weeks. Remember your goal is to better understand how the government operates, so keep that in mind when selecting articles.

Focus your study on any of the following areas: foreign policy (U.S. relations with foreign countries) or national/domestic policy (examples would include: Homeland Security, immigration, taxes, healthcare reform, education, judicial nominations, the economy, judicial nomination hearings).

Assignment #3: AP Government Scavenger Hunt

Review and become familiar with the AP College Board U.S. Government website:

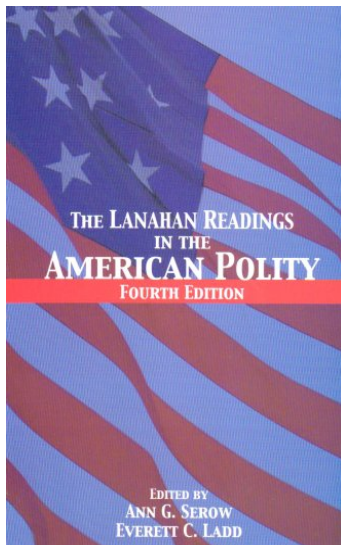
http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_usgov.html?usgovpol

The College Board web site is an excellent resource for students to use for information throughout the course. Log on to the College Board and read the introduction to AP US Government.

Answer the questions from the College Board website on the last page of this packet.

You will need to purchase for September the following:

- 1. The US Constitution and Fascinating Facts About It*
- 2. The Lanahan Readings in the American Polity (it MUST be this edition- the 4th edition- see picture below)- the book store has 18 copies you should purchase the book this year to avoid the price going up in September)*
- 3. You will need to purchase an AP GOPO review book by **January***
4. a large binder- with section dividers for each Unit- you may need two binders you will know by January if you will need one.
5. 5/8 index cards



AP U.S. Government and Politics Internet Scavenger Hunt

1. What are three ways to prepare for the AP exam?
2. What is the cost of the examination?
3. In what month are the exams usually given?
4. What day, date, and time is the AP U.S. Government & Politics exam given?
5. Identify the six topics to be covered throughout the semester.
6. What percentage of the exam deals with political parties, interest groups, & mass media, constitutional underpinnings, legislative branch, judicial branch, executive branch, bureaucracy, policy making?
7. What are the three primary source documents used to prepare for the AP exam?
8. What are two Web sites that may be used for the legislative branch?
9. What are Free-Response Questions (FRQ's)?

