



Los Alamos High School

1300 Diamond Dr., Los Alamos, New Mexico, 87544
Main Line: (505) 663-2510 | Fax Line: (505) 662-6846 | Absence Line: (505) 663-2511

AP Government Summer Assignment 2020 - 2021

Required Summer Assignment:

- All AP US Government students must comment on at least **10** articles that will be posted on the class website.
 - **Articles will start being posted June 18th**

Summer Instructions:

- Before you can start this assignment you will need to create a user account for the class website.
 - **[Instructions to create a user account can be seen below](#)**

10 Current Event Online Articles

Class Website Current Events and Posts:

1. Login to your class account.
2. Read the most recent articles. Comments for each article will only be allowed 72 hours after they are posted.
3. Once you have read the article you will need to post your comments. Comments should show your understanding of the articles topic. You can use this time to raise questions, make analogies or propose an opposing viewpoint.
4. Remember each student must comment on at least **10** articles that will be posted on the class website. You will need to read and post comments a minimum of two per week. You are allowed two exempt weeks to be used if you are on vacation or are experiencing technical difficulties.

If computer access will be a problem for any of you, contact Mr. Montaña ASAP. I look forward to working with you next school year in our AP Government class. The successful completion of this summer assignment will get you off to a great start. Have a great summer!



The New York Times THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
The Washington Post The Washington Times



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AP Government Summer Assignment 2019 - 2020 – Creating Your Account

Go to class website at: www.mrmontano.com

1. Click on Login located on the right side of the top menu.

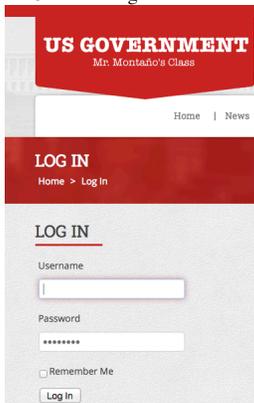


4. Login to your email account. Find the email that was just sent to you and copy the generic password.

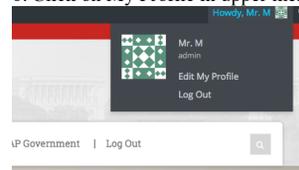
5. Type in your username and past the generic password.



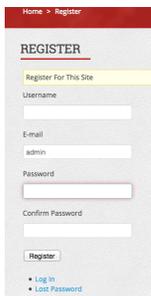
2. Click on Register



6. Click on My Profile in upper menu. Click Edit My Profile



3. Enter in unique username (something no one would be able to figure out that this username as yours). Enter in your email address so a generic password can be sent to you.



7. Type in your first and last name/



8. Scroll down and create new password. Use the same password from your quia.com account.



Click on Update Profile Button





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AP Government Summer Vocabulary – 2020 - 2021

There will be a test the first day of class on these terms

A	B
Majority Rule	A fundamental democratic principle requiring that the majority's view be respected.
Checks and Balances	System in which each branch of government can limit the power of the other two branches.
Unitary System	System of government in which all power is invested in a central government.
Federalism	A system of government in which power is divided by a written constitution between a central government and regional (state) governments.
Express Powers	Powers specifically granted to the federal government by the Constitution.
Implied Powers	Powers of the federal government that go beyond those enumerated in the Constitution.
Reserved Powers	Powers not specifically granted to the national government or denied to the states. Are held to the states by the 10th Amendment.
Cooperative Federalism	Situations in which the national and state governments work together to complete projects.
Categorical Grant	Funds provided for a specific and clearly defined purpose.
Block Grant	Funds granted to the states for a broadly defined purpose. These grants shift resources from the federal government to the states and contribute to the growing number of state and local government employees.
Mandates	Rules telling states what they must do to comply with federal guidelines. If unfunded they put a financial burden on state and local governments.
Devolution	A movement to transfer the responsibilities of governing from the federal government to state and local governments.

Political Culture	A set of widely shared political beliefs and values.
Political Socialization	The process by which political values are formed and passed from one generation to the next. Most important agent is the family.
Public Opinion	Attitudes about institutions, leaders, political issues and events.
Political Ideology	A cohesive set of beliefs about politics, public policy and the role of the government.
Political efficacy	The belief that one's political participation makes a difference.
Split-Ticket Voting	Voting for candidates of different parties for different offices in the same election. Recent elections has seen an increase in voters identifying themselves as independents and voting for candidates from both parties.
Political Party	A group of citizens who organize to win elections, hold public offices, operate the governments and determine public policy.
Plurality Election	The winning candidate is the person who receives more votes than anyone else, but less than half the total.
Single-Member District	An electoral district from which one person is chosen by the voters for each elected office and leads to legislatures dominated by two political parties.
Party Era	An historical period dominated by one political party.
Critical Election	An election when significant groups of voters change their traditional patterns of party loyalty.
Party Realignment	The majority party is displaced by the minority party, thus ushering in a new party era.
Divided Government	A government in which one party controls the presidency while another party controls Congress.
Interest Group	An organization of people whose members share views on specific interests and attempt to influence public policy to their benefit, but do not elect people to office.
Political Action Committee	A committee formed by business, labor, or other interest groups to raise money and make contributions to the campaigns of political candidates whom they support.
Free Rider	People who benefit from an interest group without making any contributions.
Power Elite Theory	The theory that a small number of very wealthy individuals, powerful corporate interest groups, and

	large financial institutions dominate key policy areas.
Pluralist Theory	The theory that many interest groups compete for the power in a large number of policy areas.
Hyper-Pluralist Theory	The theory that government policy is weakened and often contradictory because there are so many competing interest groups.
Mass Media	Means of communication such as newspapers, radio, television, and the internet that can reach large, widely dispersed audiences.
Linkage Institutions	Institutions that connect citizens to government. Example are mass media, interest groups, and political parties.
Horc-Race Journalism	The tendency of the media to cover campaigns by emphasizing how candidates stand in the polls instead of where they stand on the issues.
Congressional Redistricting	The reallocation of the number of representatives each state has in the House of Representatives.
Gerrymandering	The legislative process by which the majority party in each state legislature redraws congressional districts to ensure the maximum number of seats for its candidates.
Incumbent	An officeholder who is seeking reelection. Usually this is the most important factor in determining the outcome of the election.
Franking Privilege	The right of members of Congress to mail newsletters to their constituents at the government's expense.
Standing Committees	Permanent subject-matter congressional committees that handle legislation and oversee the bureaucracy.
Conference Committees	Temporary Committees that are formed to resolve differences in the House and Senate version of a bill.
House Rules Committee	Committee that sets the guidelines for floor debate in the House. Gives each bill a rule, places it on the calendar, limits debate time and determine its amendments.
House Ways and Means Committee	Committee that handles all tax bills.
Seniority	Unwritten rule in both houses reserving the committee chairs to members of the committee with the longest records of continuous service
Filibuster	A way of delaying or preventing action on a bill by using long speeches and unlimited debate to "talk a bill to death."
Cloture	A senate motion to end a filibuster requiring 3/5ths vote.

Logrolling	Tactic of mutual aid and vote trading among legislators.
Oversight	Congressional review of the activities of an executive agency, department or office.
Delegate role of Representation	When members of Congress cast their votes based on the wishes of their constituents.
Closed Primary	A primary in which voters are required to identify a party preference before the election and are not allowed to split their ticket.
FrontLoading	The recent pattern of states holding primaries early in order to maximize their mass media attention and political influence.
Soft Money	Contributions to political parties for party-building activities and usually a means of circumventing limits on hard money.
527 Group	A tax-exempt organization, not regulated by the Federal Election Commission, created to influence the political process.
Veto	The president's Constitutional power to reject a bill passed by Congress, but may be overridden by 2/3rds of their vote.
Line-Item Veto	The power to veto specific dollar amounts or line items from major congressional spending bills. This power was struck down as an unconstitutional expansion of the President's power.
Executive Agreement	A pact and therefore not part of US law, that does not have to be approved, between the president and the head of a foreign state.
Executive Privilege	The President's power to refuse to disclose confidential information. In US vs. Nixon it was ruled that this power is not guaranteed.
Lame-Duck Period	The period of time in which the President's term is about to come to an end and they have less influence.
Bureaucracy	A large, complex organization of appointed officials.
Executive Order	A directive, order or regulation issued by the President but have the Constitutional force of law.
Iron Triangle	An alliance among an administrative agency, an interest group, and a congressional committee where each member provides key services, information, or policy for the others.
Issue Network	A network that includes policy experts, media pundits, congressional staff members, and interest groups who

	regularly debate an issue.
Policy Agenda	A set of issues and problems that policy makers considers important.
Appellate Jurisdiction	The authority of a court to hear an appeal from a lower court.
Senatorial Courtesy	An unwritten tradition whereby the Senate will not confirm nominations for lower court positions that are opposed by a senator of the president's own party from the state in which the nominee is to serve.
Writ of Certiorari	An order by the Supreme Court directing a lower court to send up the record in a given case for its review.
Rule of Four	The Supreme Court will hear a case if four justices agree to do so.
Solicitor General	the solicitor general is responsible for handling all appeals on behalf of the US government to the Supreme Court.
Amicus Curiae Brief	A friend of the court brief filed by an interest group or interested party to influence a Supreme Court decision.
Stare Decisis	A Latin phrase meaning "let the decision stand." This ensures most decisions are based on precedents established in earlier cases.
Judicial Restraint	Philosophy that the Supreme Court should use precedents and the Framers' original intent to decide cases.
Judicial Activism	Philosophy that the Supreme Court must correct injustices when other branches of government or the states refuse to do so.
Monetary Policy	The Federal Reserve Board controls the economy by regulating the money supply, controlling inflation, and adjusting interest rates.
Fiscal Policy	Raising and lowering taxes and government spending programs.
Entitlement Programs	Government sponsored programs that provide mandated benefits to those who meet eligibility requirement, two of which are Social Security and Medicare.
Office of Management and Budget	Office responsible for preparing the budget that the president submits to Congress.
Civil Liberties	Legal and Constitutional rights that protect individuals from arbitrary acts of government.
Civil Rights	Policies designed to protect people against arbitrary or

	discriminatory treatment by government officials or individuals. Includes prohibiting racial and gender discrimination.
Selective Incorporation	The case-by-case process by which liberties listed in the Bill of Rights have been applied to the states using the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
Establishment Clause	A provision of the First Amendment that prohibits Congress from establishing an official government-sponsored religion.
Free Exercise Clause	A provision of the First Amendment that guarantees each person the right to believe what he or she wants; however, a religion cannot make an act legal that would otherwise be illegal.
Clear and Present Danger Test	Judicial interpretation of the First Amendment that government may not ban speech unless it poses an imminent threat to society.
Writ of Habeas Corpus	A court order directing that a prisoner be brought before a court and that the court officers show cause why the prisoner should not be released.
Bill of Attainder	A legislative act that provides for the punishment of a person without a court trial.
Ex Post Facto law	A law applied to an act committed before the law was enacted.
Exclusionary Rule	Supreme Court guideline that prohibits evidence obtained by illegal searches or seizures from being admitted in court.
Miranda Warnings	Warnings that police must read to suspects prior to questioning that advises them of their rights.
Strict Scrutiny	Supreme Court rule that classification by race and ethnic background is inherently suspect and must be justified by a "compelling public interest."
Affirmative Action	A policy requiring federal agencies, universities, and most employers to take positive steps to remedy the effects of past discriminations.



Know the basic facts about the following Supreme Court cases.

- *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)
- *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)
- *Schenck v. United States* (1919)
- *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954)
- *Baker v. Carr* (1961)
- *Engel v. Vitale* (1962)
- *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)
- *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969)
- *New York Times Co. v. United States* (1971)
- *Wisconsin v. Yoder* (1972)
- *Roe v. Wade* (1973)
- *Shaw v. Reno* (1993)
- *United States v. Lopez* (1995)
- *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* (2010)
- *McDonald v. Chicago* (2010)