

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_

**AP GOVERNMENT & POLITICS SYLLABUS****Ms. Bookman (Sal)****E-mail:** [Erica.Bookman@browardschools.com](mailto:Erica.Bookman@browardschools.com)

- **Website:** <http://cbhs1516apush.weebly.com/>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

- Advanced Placement US Government and Politics is a college level course designed to prepare the student to take the AP exam, administered by the College Board. For students who achieve a score of 3, 4, or 5 (depending on the university) universities grant either credit or advanced placement, or both, for taking a one-semester introductory college course in US Government and Politics.
- The course is designed to teach students about how people behave politically, and about the design of the American political system. The major purpose of this course is to help students gain and display an understanding of American politics, and the processes of government that help shape our public policies. These ideas include but are not limited to:
  - **Constitutionalism (CON)** The U.S. Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances among branches of government and allocates power between federal and state governments. This system is based on the rule of law and the balance majority rule and minority rights.
  - **Liberty and Order (LOR)** Governmental laws and policies balancing order and liberty are based on the U.S. Constitution and have been interpreted differently over time.
  - **Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy (PRD)** Popular sovereignty, individualism, and republicanism are important considerations of U.S. laws and policy making and assume citizens will engage and participate.
  - **Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)** Multiple actors and institutions interact to produce and implement possible policies.
  - **Methods of Political Analysis (MPA)** Using various types of analyses, political scientists measure how U.S. political behavior, attitudes, ideologies, and institutions are shaped by a number of factors over time.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

- *American Government: Roots and Reform*, 2011 edition (11<sup>th</sup> edition)
  - Karen O'Connor, Larry Sabato, Alixandra Yanus
- *United States Government & Politics*, AMSCO Publications, 2018 edition (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)
  - David Wolfford

**COURSE UNITS**

- Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy (15-22%)
- Unit 2: Interactions Among the Branches of Government (25-36%)
- Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (13-18%)
- Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs (10-15%)
- Unit 5: Political Participation (20-27%)

**Exam date:** Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> (morning exam.) \*Percentages equal roughly material covered on the AP exam.

**\*\*\*DISCLAIMER:** Failure to show up for the AP Exam will result in full financial responsibility for the cost of the exam as well as a loss of points to your GPA.

**AP EXAM**

	<b>MULTIPLE CHOICE</b>	<b>FRQ (FREE RESPONSE)</b>
<b># of questions</b>	55	4 (answer <b>ALL</b> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept Application (12.5%)</li> <li>• Quantitative Analysis (12.5%)</li> <li>• SCOTUS Comparison (12.5%)</li> <li>• Argument Essay (12.5%)</li> </ul>
<b>Time</b>	1 hour 20 minutes	1 hour and 40 minutes
<b>Percentage weighted</b>	50%	50%

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_

### CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- **ATTENDANCE:**
  - AP courses require that students are on time and attend class every day. Students will be given the opportunity to make-up work as long as it is **excused** within the allotted amount of time. Unexcused absences/tardies are not tolerated and work missed will be penalized significantly.
- **CLASS/HOMEWORK and MAKEUP POLICY:**
  - Students are expected to complete every assignment in a timely and fair manner. All assignments must be handwritten (legibly) and will be the original work of the student.
  - It is the student's responsibility to get any missed assignments, handouts, notes, and daily questions when absent. I will not seek you out and remind you that there are things you need to complete. If you are absent on a test day, you will have to make arrangements with me to makeup your test. Make-ups take place generally at 6:30 am or during my study hall.
  - Unexcused absences and tardies will result in severe deduction of points for assignments and exams. Skipping class, which is defined as not showing up in class when you are legally bound to be here even if you are "absent" or "signed out" or not "signed in" – whenever there is a red mark in Pinnacle marked "unexcused" work missed will be marked as a decimal or a zero until the absence is excused, if never excused the score will remain severely diminished.
- **HONOR CODE:**
  - Given that AP courses are difficult and time-consuming, some students may be tempted to cheat or use dishonest means of accessing information. This behavior will not be tolerated. Please know that cheating at ANY point is subject to immediate and lasting consequences, including but not limited to grades of zero, dismissal from course, and informing universities of academic dishonesty.
    - Cheating includes classic definitions, but also includes discussing exam material with students after you have already taken/and or gone over the material. Be smart, be honest.
  - Students are expected to act in accordance with a collegiate atmosphere.
    - Students will be prepared for class each day with the appropriate classroom material and attitude.
    - Talking while the instructor is talking, sleeping, and/or working on material from other courses will not be tolerated.
  - Pictures will not be taken of teacher, lectures, PowerPoints, or assignments unless permitted to do so.
  - Everything must be handwritten.
  - Laptops, iPads, cell phones, or any other technology may NOT be used in the classroom even if it is for educational purposes without permission.
  - By signing below you are agreeing to the possibility of viewing films/documentaries that are rated R. Students are expected to act as adults when viewing any material in class.

### CLASSROOM MATERIAL

- 3 Ring Binder , Dividers (Notes/ Assignments/ Exam material/ Review/ Misc.), Highlighter, **PAPER!!!** – Notebook paper in class and computer paper for printing at home

### YOUR GRADE

- Your grade in United States Government will be based on the percentage of the points you earn out of the total possible points assigned. I do not round up at the end of the term or give extra assignments at the end of the term to bring up grades. Students need to work hard throughout the entire nine weeks to earn the grade they desire.

*Please sign below in recognition that you have read and agree with the AP contract and course syllabus. Return to your AP teacher. I have read the requirements and understand the dedication needed to succeed in an AP class. I acknowledge that if my child has a D or F, a conference and transfer will be advised. I also understand that a pattern of non-attendance will have consequences for my child's grade and for their overall learning*

**BY SIGNING BELOW YOU ARE ACKNOWLEDGING AND AGREEING TO ALL INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Signature**