**Mr. Iatarola’s AP US Government and Politics Syllabus**

**Unit Tests:**

*Unit I:*Foundations of American Democracy

*Unit Constitution:*Constitution Test

*Unit II:*Interactions Among Branches of Government

*Unit III:*Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

*Unit IV:*American Political Ideologies and Beliefs

*Unit V:*Political Participation

**Breakdown of grades:**

* 65% Unit Tests
* 35% Homework, Quizzes, Class Participation

**Homework:**

Handwritten definitions, chapter summaries, and a brief summary of documents and cases. Turn-in on the day of the test.

**Unit I Vocabulary: Crash Course Chapters: 3+4** *1/2 page summary each chapter*

1. Limited Government
2. Natural Rights
3. Popular Sovereignty
4. Republicanism
5. Participatory Democracy
6. Pluralist Democracy
7. Elite Democracy
8. Faction
9. Federalist
10. Anti-Federalist
11. Federalism
12. Checks and Balances
13. Separation of Powers
14. Shay’s Rebellion
15. Great Compromise
16. Electoral College
17. Three Fifths Compromise
18. Amendment Process
19. Concurrent Powers
20. Mandates
21. Categorical Grants
22. Block Grants
23. Commerce Clause
24. Necessary and Proper Clause
25. Enumerated Powers
26. Implied Powers
27. Policymaking
28. Exclusive Powers

**Unit 1 Foundational Documents:**

The Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States (10th + 14th), Articles of Confederation, Federalist 10, Brutus 1, and Federalist 51

**Unit 1 Supreme Court Cases:**

McCulloch v Maryland and United States v Lopez

**Unit II Vocabulary: Crash Course Chapters 10,11 (p.96-105), 12,13**  *½ page summary each chapter*

1. Senate
2. Formal Powers
3. Informal Powers
4. Presidential Veto
5. Pocket Veto
6. Commander-in-Chief
7. Treaties
8. Executive Agreements
9. Executive Orders
10. Signing Statements
11. Presidential Appointments
12. State of the Union
13. Bully Pulpit
14. Judicial Review
15. Life Tenure
16. Precedent
17. Stare Decisis
18. Appointment
19. Confirmation
20. Court Jurisdiction
21. Implementation of Court Rulings
22. Regulations
23. Fines
24. Congressional Testimony
25. Issue Network
26. Iron Triangles
27. Political Patronage
28. Civil Service
29. Merit System
30. Bureaucratic Discretion
31. Rule-Making
32. Policy Implementation
33. Oversight (Committee Hearings/Power of the Purse)
34. Judicial Review
35. Judicial Activism
36. Judicial Restraint
37. House of Representatives
38. Constituencies
39. Term-Lengths in Congress
40. Policy-making process
41. Congressional Standing Committees
42. Speaker of the House
43. President of the Senate
44. Party Leadership in Congress
45. Committee Leadership
46. Filibuster
47. Cloture
48. Holds
49. Unanimous Consent
50. Rules Committee
51. Committee of the Whole
52. Discharge Petitions
53. Treaty Ratification
54. Confirmation
55. Federal Budget
56. Discretionary Spending
57. Mandatory Spending
58. Entitlement Spending
59. Tax Revenue
60. Budget Deficit
61. Pork Barrel
62. Logrolling
63. Party Polarization
64. Gerrymandering
65. Redistricting
66. “One person, One Vote”
67. Divided Government
68. Lame-Duck
69. Trustee
70. Delegate
71. Politico

**Unit II Foundational Documents:**

Federalist 70, Federalist 78, Constitution

**Unit II Supreme Court Cases:**

Baker v. Carr, Shaw v. Reno, Marbury v. Madison

**Unit III Vocabulary: Crash Course Chapters: 15+16** *½ page summary each chapter*

1. Right to Legal Counsel
2. Right to Speedy and Public Trial
3. Right to Impartial Jury
4. Protection Against Warrantless Searches
5. Exclusionary Rule
6. 9th Amendment
7. Equal Protection Clause (14th Amendment)
8. Civil Rights
9. National Organization for Women (NOW)
10. Pro-Life Movement
11. The Civil Rights Act of 1964
12. Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972
13. Voting Rights of 1965
14. Public Accommodation Laws
15. Majority-Minority Districts
16. Affirmative Action
17. Miranda vs Arizona
18. Bill of Rights
19. Civil Liberties
20. Establishment Clause
21. Free Exercise Clause
22. Symbolic Speech
23. Limits on Speech
    1. Time, Manner, and Place Regulations
    2. Defamatory
    3. Offensive and Obscene Gestures
24. Clear and Present Danger
25. Prior Restraint
26. 2nd Amendment
27. 4th Amendment
28. 8th Amendment
29. Selective Incorporation
30. Due Process Clause (14th Amendment)
31. Miranda Rule
32. Public Safety Exception

**Unit III Foundational Documents:**

Constitution, “Letter from Birmingham Jail”

**Unit III Supreme Court Cases:**

Engel v. Vitale, Wisconsin v. Yoder, Tinker v. Des Moines, Schenck v. United States, New York Times Co. v. United States, McDonald v. Chicago, Gideon v. Wainwright, Roe v. Wade, Brown v. Board of Education

**Unit IV Vocabulary: Crash Course Chapters: 5,7,14** *½ page summary each chapter*

1. Individualism
2. Equality of Opportunity
3. Free Enterprise
4. Rule of Law
5. Limited Government
6. Political Socialization
7. Political Culture
8. Opinion Polls
9. Tracking Polls
10. Exit Polls
11. Sampling Techniques
12. Sampling Error
13. Democratic Party
14. Republican Party
15. Conservative Ideology
16. Liberal Ideology
17. Libertarian Ideology
18. Keynesian Economics
19. Supply-Side Economics
20. Fiscal Policy
21. Monetary Policy
22. Federal Reserve (The FED!)

**Unit IV Foundational Documents:**

None

**Unit IV Supreme Court Cases:**

None

**Unit V Vocabulary: Crash Course Chapters: 6,8,9, 11 (p.93-96)** *½ page summary each chapter*

1. Party Platforms
2. Iron Triangle
3. Issue Networks
4. “Free Rider” Problem
5. Single-Issue Groups
6. Ideological/Social Movements
7. Protest Movements
8. Professional Organizations
9. Federal Budget Process
10. Incumbency Advantage
11. Open and Closed Primaries
12. Caucuses
13. Party Conventions
14. Electoral College
15. National Popular Vote
16. Political Consultants
17. Social Media
18. Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002
19. Soft Money
20. “Stand by Your Ad” provisions
21. Political Action Committees (PACs)
22. Super PACs
23. Horserace Journalism
24. Media as a Gatekeeper
25. Media Bias
26. Partisan News Sites
27. Ideologically Oriented Programming
28. 15th Amendment
29. 17th Amendment
30. 19th Amendment
31. 24th Amendment
32. 26th Amendment
33. Voting Rights Act of 1965
34. Rational Choice Voting
35. Retrospective Voting
36. Prospective Voting
37. Party-Line Voting
38. Voter Turnout
39. Vote Choice
40. Political Efficacy
41. Voter Registration
42. Compulsory Voting
43. Mid-Term Elections
44. Presidential Elections
45. Relationship Between Demographics and

Voter Turnout

1. Relationship Between Demographics and

Voter Choice

1. Linkage Institutions
2. Political Parties
3. Party Platform
4. Committee and Party Leadership in Legislatures
5. Candidate-Centric Campaigns
6. Direct Primaries
7. Critical Elections
8. Realignments
9. Campaign Finance
10. Proportional System
11. Winner-Take-All System

**Unit V Foundational Documents:**

None

**Unit V Supreme Court Cases:**

Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010)