Welcome to AP U.S. Government and Politics!
a.k.a **AP GoPo :)**

You will have the opportunity to earn college credit for this course through the College Board at the end of the school year by taking the AP exam in May 2020. This will be a rigorous, fast paced course. AP GoPo requires different thinking and writing skills than you used in U.S. History. Writing for government requires the understanding and analysis of abstract concepts and principles. You will depend less on the study of chronology of facts and events than on your interpretation of facts and events. Throughout the school year you will become aware of politics in general and have an opportunity to explore your political self, and where you fit into our political world.

There are two parts to the required summer assignment and each one is described on the subsequent pages. In addition to the summer assignments, please purchase required class materials and take a few minutes to join the websites that we will be using in class:

**Required Class Materials:**
1. Class binder (1 ½" to 2" binder) separated into 6 sections, filled with loose leaf paper.
2. 1 composition notebook (100 sheets or more)

*Have all class materials with you on the first day of class.*

**Required Websites:**

**Google Classroom:**
1. Go to [classroom.google.com](http://classroom.google.com) and click "Sign In"
2. Sign in using your Woodbridge Township google account. (Example: tsmith@wtsdnj.com)
3. Click on "Join A Class" and enter class code above.

**Remind:**
Text message @apgopo123 to the number 81010
Current Events

AP Government is more directly related to current events than any course you will take in high school. Everything that we will study relates to how politics and government works in modern America. Accordingly, knowledge of current political and governmental affairs will significantly help you to understand the things we study, and will, in fact, be necessary to succeed in the course. If you know what is going on in the country with respect to politics and government, you will do better in the course.

You should follow major current events by doing one or more of the following on as close to a daily basis as possible:

- Read either the print or online version of a major newspaper.
- Watch a national/international news broadcast (CNN, MSNBC, FOX News, PBS, ABC, CBS, NBC) – not a local news broadcast.
- Read major news magazines or political journals (Time, Newsweek, US News and World Report, The Economist, The Atlantic, The New Yorker)
- Read articles from an online political journalism website such as Politico (politico.com) or Five-Thirty-Eight (fivethirtyeight.com)
- Watch daily or weekly news/current affairs programming (Hardball, Meet the Press, Face the Nation, This Week, etc.)

If you have any questions about the summer assignment you can reach me via my school email address: heather.russell@woodbridge.k12.nj.us

I hope that you have an enjoyable and productive summer! - Ms. Russell
Directions: As you read through the United States Constitution answer the following questions. A link to the Constitution will be posted in Google Classroom. Responses should be handwritten, not typed and in complete sentences. Your responses should be in your own words, you should be able to understand and explain your answers completely when asked.

Article I:
1. What are the two bodies that make up Congress?

2. How often are representatives to be elected?

3. How old must a representative be to be elected?

4. How is the number of Representatives for each states determined?

5. How long is the term for a senator?

6. How old does someone have to be to be a senator?

7. Who is the president of the Senate and when may that person vote?
8. Which legislative body has the power of impeachment and which body has the power to try an impeached official?

9. What is the required vote that is necessary to convict someone who has been impeached?

10. In what federal body should all bills concerning taxes originate?

11. What fraction of both houses must vote to override a veto?

12. In Section 8, the Constitution lists the powers of Congress. Discuss six of them.

13. When may the writ of habeas corpus be suspended?
14. Discuss three limits on the powers of the states.

**Article II:**
15. What are the requirements for becoming President of the United States?

16. Discuss three powers of the President of the United States.

17. Name the body of Congress that must approve a treaty that the president has negotiated and the fraction of the vote they must approve it by.

18. If a vacancy to a public office falls while the Senate is in recess and the president fills that vacancy, how long should that officer’s term last?

**Article III:**
19. What is the term of office for Supreme Court justices? When may they be removed?
20. In which cases does the Supreme Court have original jurisdiction?

21. What must be necessary to convict someone of treason?

Article IV:
22. Explain the topic of Article IV.

23. What does the Constitution say about how one state must regard the laws of another state?

24. What guarantees does the United States of America give to the individual states?

Article V:
25. What fraction of the houses of Congress is necessary to approve a proposed amendment?

26. What fraction of the states must approve a proposed amendment for it to be ratified?
27. What fraction of the states can ask for a convention to propose new amendments?

**Article VI:**
28. What does the Constitution say about which law shall predominate if there is any conflict between laws?

29. What qualification for holding any public office is forbidden?

**Article VII:**
30. How many states were required for the ratification the Constitution?

**Amendments:**
31. Discuss the five basic civil liberties guaranteed in the First Amendment.

32. Which amendment outlaws “cruel and unusual punishments? What do YOU consider to be cruel and unusual punishment?
33. Which amendment ended slavery?

34. Summarize the Ninth Amendment in your own words.

35. Summarize the Tenth Amendment in your own words.

36. Which amendment said that states couldn’t prevent people from voting based on their race?

37. Which amendment said that a person couldn’t be tried twice for the same crime?

38. When can the government take private property and what must the government give the owners? Which amendment establishes this?
39. What phrase is repeated in both the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments?

40. Which amendment defines citizenship?

41. Discuss the rights that the accused has when suspected of a crime.

42. Which amendment prohibited alcohol? Which Amendment repealed the prohibition on alcohol?

43. Which amendment gave women the right to vote and in what year was it passed?

44. Which amendment decided that a person could be president for only two terms?

45. On what day does the Constitution state that a new president shall be inaugurated? Which amendment establishes this? When must the new Congress meet?
46. Which amendment prevents the president and vice president from being inhabitants of the same state? In that same amendment, who should choose the president if no one gets a majority in the Electoral College? And the vice president?

47. Which amendment requires a warrant to search someone's property?

48. Which amendment gave government the power to impose an income tax?

49. Which amendment establishes what to do if the president is incapacitated and can’t perform his duties?

50. Which amendment established that the people should elect senators? How were they originally chosen?
Summer Assignment Part II

Political Ideology (50 points)

Due First Day of School

Wednesday September 4, 2019

All responses should be handwritten, not typed.

Go to the following Website: http://www.people-press.org/quiz/political-typology/

1. For each statement, select the one that you most agree with.
You may find some of these questions are difficult to answer. For example, you may partly agree
with both statements, or feel that neither describes your view. That’s OK. In those cases, pick the
answer that comes closest to your view, even if it isn’t exactly right.

2. Once you have answered all 17 questions you will be asked to indicate whether you consider
yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent. Select the one you most agree with.

3. Your best fit is _______________________________________________________________.
(*This may not be the ideology you identify with, that's okay! Use the ideology that was
assigned to you in the results).

a. Briefly describe the political beliefs of your results. This should be in 5-7 sentences.
b. Using the political spectrum on the results page, read about the other political ideologies. For each of the following political ideologies, briefly describe the most important values to that group (5 to 7 sentences each). *If any of the political ideologies listed below were assigned you and completed in part a, skip it for part b.

- Solid Liberal:

- Opportunity Democrats:

- Disaffected Democrats:
- New Era Enterprisers:

- Country First Conservatives:

- Core Conservatives: