



Instructor: Mr. Harris
Cleveland School of Science and Medicine
KAP- Political Science 2014-2015

Course Syllabus:

KAP- Political Science is an in-depth study of the understanding of the United States government and economy.

*****note: This is a tentative schedule and subject to change.***

Textbook: Edwards, George C., Robert L. Lineberry, and Martin P. Wattenberg. Government in America: People, Politics, and Policy. New York: Longman. □

supplemental readings: Tocqueville-Democracy In America, Nelson-The Elections of 2008, Madison, Hamilton, and Jay-Federalist Papers, Mayhew- Congress: The Electoral Connection, Neustadt, Presidential Power, Agresto, The Supreme Court and Constitutional Democracy and various periodicals showing left and rights wing interests.

Standards:

- Explain the foundation of the American Political System as outlined in the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Federalists Papers.
- Explain the role of elections, political parties, and interest groups.
- Examine ways in which public officials acquire and lose their offices including: appointment, primary and general elections, recall and impeachment.
- Examine the role of the Congressional Branch, learn how bills become law, analyze the impact of Congress on public policy and the political system.
- Examine the relationship of the Federal Government and the States.
- Examine the role and function of the Executive Branch, including the Cabinet, Federal Bureaucracy and Agencies.
- Examine the role and function of the Federal Courts. Trace key Supreme Court decisions and study how they impact civil rights and civil liberties.

Grade Scale

93%-100%	A
85%-92%	B
75%-84%	C
65%-74%	D
Below-64%	F

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2 weeks

Introduction/ Government in America

Tocqueville, Democracy In America - Introduction, Chp. 2-4.
Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 1

3 Weeks

Constitution and Federalism

Federalist Papers 6, 10, 15-17, 23, 37, 54, 47-49,70-71, and 78.
Tocqueville, Democracy In America- Introduction, Chp. 5(82-93)
McCulloch vs. Maryland
Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 2 and 3.

2 Weeks

Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Federalist Papers 84-85
The Constitution, Amendments 1-10.
9/17 Topics for Paper # 1 will be passed out (due 10/4)

Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 4, and 5.

2 weeks

Public Opinion/ Mass Media/ Political Parties

Tocqueville, Part II, Chapters 2 and 4
Nelson, The Elections of 2008, Chap. 1 -3
Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 6, and 7.

2 Weeks

Election and Voting Behavior/Nomination/Campaigns/Interest Groups

Nelson, The Elections of 2008, Chap. 4,6,

Tocqueville Part II Chapter 3

Nelson, Chapter 5, 7, and 9.

Tocqueville Part II Chapter 1

10/15 Topics for Paper # 2 will be passed out (due 11/1

Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 9, 10, and 11.

END OF 1ST QUARTER

3 weeks

Congress

The Constitution, Article 1 and Amendment XVII

Federalist Papers, 35, 52-53, and 62-63.

Mayhew, Congress: The Electoral Connection, Preface, Introduction, and Chapter 1

Nelson, The Elections of 2008, Chap. 8

Mayhew, Congress: The Electoral Connection Chp. 2

Tocqueville, Part II Chap 7, 8, and 9

11/13 Topics for Major Paper will be passed out (due 12/3)

Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 12

2 weeks

Presidency and Bureaucracy

The Constitution, Article II, and Amendments XII, XX, XXII, XXIII, and XXV

The Federalist Papers, 70-73

Neustadt, Presidential Power Part I pp. 3-55, 68-99, 122-144 and 150-163.

Neustadt, Part II pp. 167-169, 179-229, 269-94, and 308-18.

Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 13, and 15.

2 weeks

Federal Courts

The Constitution, Article III

Tocqueville, Chap.6

Marbury v. Madison

The Federalist Paper 78 and 81

Agresto, The Supreme Court and Constitutional Democracy (pp. 9-40, 51-55, 84-107, and 125-167)

Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 16

2 weeks

The Congress, President, and Economic policies

Constitution, Articles I and Article II

Edwards, Wattenberg, and Lineberry Chap. 14, and 17.

End of 1st Semester Final Exam

Graded Major Assignments: There will be 3 written assignments. You will have 3 papers, chapter test, a midterm, and a final exam. For each paper topics will be handed out on the dates shown on the syllabus and will be 3-5 pages long. The Major paper in the second quarter will be 5-7 page paper. All assignments are due on the assigned date, and penalties will be incurred for turning in papers late.

The papers for this class should be typed, double-spaced, and Times New Romans font. They should be a well thought out, organized, and proofread for errors. Your grade will be based on originality, logic, persuasiveness of argument, depth of thought, use of evidence and organization. All sources must be displayed in an MLA style bibliography.

Both the midterm and final exams will be approximate 2 hour exams and there will be chapter test for each topic covered.

Classroom Rules:

No food, gum, drinks (except water).

Be on time, prepared and in your seat.

Follow all CSSM school rules.

Respect yourself, classmates, teachers, staff, and school property.

Keep your hands, feet, and all objects to yourself.

Look, Listen and Learn.

Classroom supplies:

Pencil and pens
Loose-leaf notebook paper
2 college ruled notebooks

Absence policy:

All class work and home work assignments that you missed due to an excused absence may be made up to 3 days after the day(s) that you were absent. **All LATE work that is not an excused absence will receive ½ credit.**

Office Hours:

I will be available for tutoring or conferences t, th, from 3:30-4:30 (except for faculty meetings on 2nd Wednesdays). If you need to contact me you may contact me at the following email address: c.harris@cssm-staff.org.

Also if you are wondering what assignments you have missed you may visit my website www.thehay.org. There will be a current updated calendar, a list of class and homework assignments. Plus upcoming events such as test, and other school activities.

I, the student have read the following syllabus and agree to do my best to abide by the rules and regulations. I will follow the syllabus to the best of my ability and do all assignments.

_____ (Print Name) _____ (Sign Name)

I, the parent have read the following syllabus and agree to do my best to help my son/daughter abide by the rules and regulations. I will help my child follow the syllabus to the best of his/her ability and to do all assignments.

_____ (Print Name) _____ (Sign Name)