

KAP 200
Liberal Democracy in America
Mr. Worden
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Course Objective

This class is offered through the KAP at West High School. You may earn college credit for your efforts. The purpose of this course is to better prepare you for post-secondary education. Upon completion, you should be able to critically analyze political philosophy in this nation. Hopefully your interest in politics will encourage you to pursue more advanced topics in college.

Grading

Paper #1 (5-7 pages):	10%
Paper #2 (5-7 pages):	10%
Tests & quizzes:	30%
Portfolio:	30%
Class Projects:	20%

Papers: Papers must be typed, double-space, and in Times New Roman. Topics will be distributed well in advance of due date. Papers must be well-written, proofread, and original. Grading rubrics for papers will be distributed in class.

Tests and quizzes: Assessments will be given periodically as the semester progresses. All reading assignments are the responsibility of the student. You will be tested on readings, whether covered in class or not. The final exam will be given during finals week and will be a comprehensive review of your knowledge of the coursework.

Required texts:

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, vol. 1
Hamilton, Jay, and Madison, *The Federalist Papers*
David Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection*
Richard Neustadt, *Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents*
John Agresto, *The Supreme Court and Constitutional Democracy*
Samuel Lerner and Gary C. Jacobsen, *The Logic of American Politics*
James Q. Wilson and John J. Dilulio, *American Government*

Assignments:

September

5 *The Declaration of Independence*

8 *The U.S. Constitution*

12 *Articles of Confederation*

15 *Federalist Papers #1, 2, 37, 38, 40*

22 *Federalist Papers #3, 4, 6, 8, 23, 25*

29 *Federalist Papers #9, 10, 47, 48, 49, 51*

October

6 *Federalist Papers #14, 56, 57, 58, 63, 64*

12 *Federalist Papers #39, 45, 46, 54*

Federalism

18 KJ, Chapter 3

27 Wilson, Chapter 3

November

7 *Federalist Papers, #15, 16, 17*

15 Tocqueville, Chapter 5, pp. 82-93

Public Opinion

28 KJ, Chapter 10

29 Wilson, Chapter 5

December

5 Tocqueville, Chapter 7

Political Parties

12 KJ, Chapter 12

13 Tocqueville, Chapters 2 and 4

20 Wilson, Chapter 7

Winter Recess Dec. 20-Jan. 4th

January

4 **Interest Groups**
KJ, Chapter 13
Wilson, Chapter 9

Campaigns and Elections

16 Wilson, Chapter 8

19 Nelson, Chapter 3

27 KJ, Chapter 11

February

Congress

5 Wilson, Chapter 11

23 KJ, Chapter 11

28 *The Federalist Papers, #35, 52-53, 62-63*

March

3 Mayhew, Chapter 1 & 2

7 Nelson, Chapter 8

Presidency

20 Wilson, Chapter 12

27 KJ, Chapter 7

April

- 3 *The Federalist Papers, #70, 71, 72, 73*
- 10 Neustadt, pp. 3-55, 68-99,
- 13 Neustadt, pp. 122-44, 105-63

Spring Break April, 14-23

- 24 Neustadt, pp. 167-229, 269-94, 308-18

Bureaucracy

- 27 KJ, Chapter 8
- 28 Wilson, Chapter 13

May

Courts

- 4 Wilson, Chapter 14
- 12 KJ, Chapter 9
- 17 Agresto, pp. 9-40, 51-55, 84-107, 125-167

Summary

- 23 Tocqueville, part 2, Chapters 1, 5, 6, 10
- 24 Tocqueville, part 2, Chapters 8 and 9

Final Exam

- 31 Library, 8- 11:00 a.m.