

Early College Program Summer Assignment

Course Overview/Description- AP United States Government and Politics examines the theory and everyday processes of the American political systems with an emphasis on policy-making and implementation. The goal of this course is to prepare students for the AP Examination in May. This course is for all intents and purposes taught at a college level as each student has the opportunity to earn college credit for this class based on AP scores. As such, it requires a substantial amount of reading, writing, and preparation for each class. To be successful in this course, and on the AP test, students must keep up on the assigned reading and current events so that discussion can take place in the classroom.

Summer assignment: Four Current Events

Directions: By the first day of class students should have 4 current event articles with attached a one page paper for each article. **The paper should include a summary of what is happening in the article, how the article effects U.S government, and how it effects your life and American citizen's life.** The news source can be digital or print. All assignment sheets are due during the first-class period of the new school year. If you are absent on the first day of class, your assignment sheet is due the day you return. You may use current events from any newspaper article or website such as **cnn.com, nytimes.com, huffpost.com, and/or yahoo news.**

Purpose: In order to more successfully contribute to community and society at large, one should be current on the world's issues, updates, and changes. Being an informed citizen and discussing current events will give one a better perspective on different points of view and a better understand on the system of government.

Article Guidelines:

Article must be current—within approximately the past 3 months.

Article must be relevant—should pertain to a worldly issue unless told otherwise

Article must be from appropriate source—NOT Wikipedia! (see suggestions below) Article must be attached to Assignment Sheet and should be appropriately marked.

Note: Begin by MARKING THE TEXT as you read! This should include underlining main ideas, highlighting important facts/details, circling unfamiliar vocabulary, writing notes and/or connections in the margins, etc. Specific directions for each section are given below.

- I. **Summary:** On the lines given, summarize the main idea of your article. This should be easy if you have already underlined main ideas and highlighted important facts.
- II. **Vocabulary:** Circle at least three unfamiliar vocabulary words from your article as you read. If you cannot find three, you may have to choose words that others might not know. Fill in the vocabulary chart, listing the part of speech, an appropriate definition.
- III. **Reflection:** Think about your own opinion or reaction to the topic presented in the article. Do you agree or not? What is your position, claim, and argument?

**DON'T FORGET TO ATTACH YOUR ARTICLE TO YOUR CURRENT
EVENTS BEFORE TURNING
IT IN!!!!**