

AP U.S. Government Summer Assignment

Coach Tavani

In order to prepare for the AP U.S. Government class, you will be required to complete the following summer assignment. There are multiple components, so please take care to read the directions carefully.

1. U.S. Constitution – Read the entire constitution and look up any words or phrases you do not understand. Prepare an outline of the entire document including amendments. You will have a general test over the entire U.S. Constitution at the beginning of the course.

2. Essay – Write a clear well-documented (MLA citation style) essay with clear thesis, comparing and contrasting Republicans and Democrats. The essay should address the historical evolution of the two parties, changing viewpoints, and target demographics. Also, you should include their positions of the following topics: Social Security, the economy, gun control, abortion, immigration, gay rights, drugs, crime control, and health care. The essay should be approximately 3-5 pages long, not including the works cited page. The essay will be due on the first day of class. * Wikipedia is NOT an acceptable source*

3. Current Events - You are required to collect 5 newspaper or magazine articles that pertain to U.S Government and complete the one attached form for each article (you can print page 3 five times or print page 3 once and make copies). Make sure that you answer the questions on the form completely. Also, the articles you collect should span the summer months.

On the first day of class you should bring the following with you:

1. Constitution outline
2. Essay
3. All current events articles AND current events forms

Failure to complete ALL of these assignments will result in my recommendation the you be dropped from the course

If you have any questions you can contact me at Gregg_Tavani@gwinnett.k12.ga.us.

Finally, it may take some time for me to respond over the summer due to summer travel, etc.

Get ready for the election in November as well.

Have a great summer, and see you on the first day of class!

See current event form below.

Current Event

Name _____ Date _____

Source _____ Date of Article _____

PURPOSE: (ONE SENTENCE DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTICLE)

SUMMARY: (Summarize the current event in your own words).

IMPACT: (What is the impact of the current event on the nation, state, or local community?)

OPPOSING VIEWS: (Every story has another side. What arguments or issues might be presented that do not support the current view? Are you getting the whole story?)

VALUES: (What impact will this have on you personally?)