

Dear Prospective Student and Parents,

I am writing to you in order to give you an idea of what you/your young adult has signed up for in their senior year. This class is very demanding and challenging and will test your organization and time management skills. However, these skills are what are necessary to compete and thrive in the college setting. Most of my former students of AP Government would tell you that this class has been rewarding and beneficial.

Advanced Placement Government is a year long class designed to take an in-depth look at American Government. In this course, we look at how to become an informed and active citizen, Students will be asked to write five to seven-page essays on a weekly basis, do individual, small group, and entire class projects, as well as complete outside readings and research for further enrichment.

The class is student driven, in other words I am here to guide you on your learning experience, not do it for you. You will be expected to interact with your classmates, be prepared for class and have an intellectual curiosity about the subject matter. The college board website apcentral.collegeboard.com is an excellent source to find out more about the AP exam and content for this class. Here is a summary of what we will be studying as well as past results from the AP test that you will be required to take in May of 2020.

- I. Constitutional Underpinnings of the United States Government
- II. Political Beliefs and Behaviors
- III. Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media
- IV. The National Government: The Congress, the Presidency, and the Federal Courts
- V. Public Policy
- VI. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Our goal each year is to have as many students score a 3,4, or 5 on the AP exam. I firmly believe that if you take this class seriously and put in the time and effort required you will be more than prepared to score the necessary 3 to get college credit. The AP exam to be taken in May will consist of 55 multiple choice questions with four choices, to be done in 80 minutes. Part two of the exam is four writing prompts to be done in 120 minutes. Below are the class results from the last fourteen years. Score a Five and I will put you in Mr. Larrabee's AP Government Hall of Fame!!!

2004-2005	class average	2.917	7/12	scoring above 3	5's scored	1
2005-2006	class average	2.938	10/16	scoring above 3	5's scored	2
2006-2007	class average	2.875	10/16	scoring above 3	5's scored	1
2007-2008	class average	3.667	9/9	scoring above 3	5's scored	2
2008-2009	class average	3.333	10/12	scoring above 3	5's scored	2
2009-2010	class average	2.867	9/15	scoring above 3	5's scored	1
2010-2011	class average	3.417	11/12	scoring above 3	5's scored	2
2011-2012	class average	3.625	13/16	scoring above 3	5's scored	4
2012-2013	class average	3.178	11/17	scoring above 3	5's scored	4
2013-2014	class average	3.382	26/34	scoring above 3	5's scored	7
2014-2015	class average	3.229	37/49	scoring above 3	5's scored	5
2015-2016	class average	2.346	14/45	scoring above 3	5's scored	2
2016-2017	class average	2.953	41/64	scoring above 3	5's scored	9
2017-2018	class average	2.785	34/64	scoring above 3	5's scored	5
2018-2019	TBD			What will you do to carry on the tradition?		

Have a nice summer and be ready to bring it in the fall.

Mr. Larrabee