**AP Government & Politics - Unit 9: Public Policy**

Unit overview  
These are truly are unprecedented times and our district has had to modify plans for instruction in response to the COVID-19 virus. Our first priority is your health and safety! During the first three weeks of our time away (Phase I, as DPS called it) students were encouraged to review complete optional assignments. As we move towards the second phase (April 6- April 24), we will more directly address the content. While teachers cannot grade any assignments during this phase, we can get more directly involved with the content, have virtual meetings, present new content and intentionally review for the AP Exam.

Important Announcements

* **Class Sessions**: Moving forward, we will have virtual classes twice a week. While I cannot require you to attend, you are strongly recommended to engage with these discussions as they will provide a plan moving forward, introduce content, and create opportunities to review. Zoom sessions the first week will take place on the following dates:
  + Monday, April 6 from 2:30-4:00pm (Join Zoom Meeting at: <https://duke.zoom.us/j/372614867>)
  + Thursday, April 9 from 2:30-4:00pm (Join Zoom Meeting at <https://duke.zoom.us/j/239965063>)
* **AP Exam**: College Board has released additional information regarding the AP Exam including testing dates, material covered, and review materials. See [THIS LINK](https://apcoronavirusupdates.collegeboard.org/educators/taking-the-exams/ap-exam-schedule?SFMC_cid=EM294654-&rid=47137117) for additional information. Key Points:  
  + **Exam Date**: *May 11th at 4:00pm (make-up exam scheduled for June 1st at 12:00pm); the district is recommending that students take the AP Exam on the latest date but I think you can and will be prepared by the first testing date.*
  + **Exam Timing**: *Students will have 25 minutes to read and respond to Question 1 and five additional minutes to upload. Students will then have 15 minutes to respond to Question 2 with five additional minutes to upload.*
  + **Questions**: *There will be two FRQ questions on the test including an argumentative essay and a concept application question. Information about each question is below:*
    - **Question 1** – Argumentative Essay (60%)
      * *Important Note: There have been some changes to the argumentative essay. An additional point has been added for a second piece of evidence and an additional point has been added to assess reasoning separately for each piece of evidence. The major change, however, is that the “alternative perspective” has been eliminated from this year’s scoring.*
    - **Question 2** – Concept Application (40%)
      * *Presents students with an authentic scenario and assesses students’ ability to do the following: (a) explain the effects of a political institution, behavior, or process and (b) transfer understanding of course concepts and apply them in a new situation or scenario*
  + **Units Covered**: *The exam will cover the first three AP Units. The chart below, which was shared in the 4/1 email update, connects to our class units and textbook chapters with the “AP Units.”*

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| **AP Units** | **Class Units** | **Textbook Chapters** |
| Unit 1 – Foundations of American Democracy | 1, 2 | Chapters 1, 2, and 3 |
| Unit 2 – Interactions Among Branches of Government | 6, 7, 8, 9\* | Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 15 and 16\* |
| Unit 3 – Civil Liberties and Civil Rights | 3 | Chapters 4 and 5 |
| *\*We have not covered Unit 9 (Chapters 15 and 16) has not yet been formally assigned. More information regarding this material will be made available during our class session on April 6.* | | |

* **AP Exam Review Suggestions**: Begin to think about your preparation plan for the upcoming Advanced Placement Exam. Here are 10 Ways to Review for the AP Government Exam:
  + Watch and take notes on the AP Online Sessions
  + Take advantage of the available questions through AP Classroom
  + Review the links under “AP Exam Resources” on the class website
  + Focus on both the earlier or weaker areas first
  + Use your review book (summaries, practice questions, term lists)
  + Study the information in the review videos I sent!
  + Find an effective way to use your notes/notebook
  + Categorize material when you are preparing
  + Organize a study group to go through material
  + Use the resources provided in my various emails
* **Registration**: If you have not already entered your course selections into PowerSchool, please do so. If you have questions regarding the registration process for the 2020-2021 academic year, email your school counselor and they will set up an appointment with you.
* **JHS Distinguished Speaker Series**: Because our final event has been cancelled and there are many unknowns regarding fourth quarter, the AP Government teachers have decided to use the fourth quarter Speaker Series assignment as extra credit. We will give 10 additional points on your lowest Civics Quiz grade from third quarter. Please see the following notes:
  + March 4 – Mary Jo Festle: If you attended this event and received credit, please take a picture of your notes to let me know you received credit (my list is at work and I cannot get in the building)
  + April 8 – Mary D. Williams: If you did not attend March 4th and would like the opportunity for the extra credit, [please watch this alternative assignment](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5M-R6XoJEWs), take notes and send them to me. This is not required.
* **Third Quarter Grade**: Teachers have been encouraged to work with students on their third quarter grades. As a result, the AP Government teachers are willing to accept any missing homework or classwork from the quarter for a maximum grade of a 60. You are encouraged to submit this no later than April 13 (talk with me if you need more time). Additionally, and since there will not be a third unit test for the quarter, we have agreed to add an additional 5 point curve on the Unit 7 test (both parts – Honors and AP).

Unit 9 Content Objectives

1. Identify and explain the goals of public policy.
2. Trace the stages of the policy-making process.
3. Describe the scope of the federal budget and analyze problems associated with the national deficit and debt.
4. Assess the effectiveness of the monetary policy tools used by the federal government to manage the economy.
5. Describe current US policy in health care, education, and welfare.
6. Outline the major events and issues in the development of US foreign and defense policy.
7. Describe the roles of government officials and of other influences in US foreign and defense policy.
8. Evaluate major foreign and defense policy challenges now facing the United States.
9. Compare the constitutional powers of the president with the authority of Congress in foreign affairs.
10. Explain why checks on the powers of the national government in foreign affairs are primarily political rather than constitutional.

UNIT PLAN

Monday, April 6

Topic: Phase II Overview and College Board Updates (Zoom Class, 2:30pm)

Tuesday, April 7

Topic: Public Policy

**Assignment: Read 358-364 and read/watch** [**What is Public Policy?**](http://www.civiced.org/pc-program/instructional-component/public-policy)

**Presentation: Review the Public Policy PowerPoint Presentation under Unit 9**

Wednesday, April 8

Topic: Economic Policy, Part I

**Assignment: Read 364-370 and watch** [**Monetary & Fiscal Policy**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_tULRch1PRQ)

**Presentation: Review Slides 15-34 of the Domestic Policy PowerPoint Presentation**

Thursday, April 9

Topic: Economic Policy, Part II

**Assignment: Watch** [**10 Trillion and Counting**](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/tentrillion/)**. Consider the assignment found on class website**

Friday, April 10

Topic: Healthcare, Education, and Social Welfare Policy

**Assignment: Read 370- 380 (Note: This reading does not require the intensity of other readings; you are encourage to take fewer notes and/or skim this material)**

Monday, April 13

Topic: Roots of US Foreign and Defense Policy, Part I  
**Assignment: 385-390 and Review the Foreign Policy, Part I PowerPoint (Slides 1-9)**

Tuesday, April 14

Topic: Roots of US Foreign and Defense Policy, Part II  
**Assignment: 390-395 and review the Foreign Policy, Part I PowerPoint (Slides 10-15)**

Wednesday, April 15

Topic: Foreign Policy Decision Making (*Note: This is the most important material from the chapter*)  
**Assignment: 395-401 and review the Foreign Policy, Part II PowerPoint (Slides 1-15)**

Thursday, April 16

Topic: Foreign Policy: Contemporary Challenges  
**Assignment: 402-409, review the Foreign Policy, Part II PowerPoint (Slides 16-25)**

Friday, April 17

Topic: Foreign Policy Review/Final Submission of 3rd Quarter Work  
**Assignment: Watch** [**Foreign Policy**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMhIQNkO_Y0) **and submit any final 3rd quarter assignments or extra credit**

Monday, April 20 – Friday, April 24

**We will begin our formal review for the AP Exam during this week; our review will include:**

* **Zoom Class Sessions**
* **College Board Review Sessions**
* **Website Resources**
* **Released Questions through AP Classroom**
* **Optional Review Assignments**