

Advanced Placement
U.S. Government & Politics/English Language & Composition
Summer Assignment 2023

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Welcome to Advanced Placement U.S. Government & Politics and Advanced Placement English Language & Composition!

To help prepare you for next year, please complete the following assignments. They are due on the first day of class in August. Feel free to email us over the summer if you have any questions or concerns. Please be patient, it may take us a bit longer to get back to you over the summer. In addition to the assignments below, please complete the [Senior Exhibition Summer Assignment](#). It is also posted on the OHS website.

Assignment #1

Read and annotate the U.S. Constitution. Use the S.I.T. method (that you are likely familiar with). Write down something that surprised you, something that you found interesting and something that you found troubling.

Be prepared to share your thoughts on the first day of class.

Here is a link to the US Constitution.

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>

Assignment #2 (Optional)

As part of these courses we highly recommend that you follow current events and politics. It will greatly enhance your understanding of the theoretical concepts of government and help you retain the material because you will be able to link the theory to events.

So, we recommend that you follow the news. Be sure to pay particular attention to the political news - What is Congress doing/not doing? What decisions did the Supreme Court hand down? What is going on with the President/the upcoming primary election? What international issues dominated the news? We will have time to discuss current events from the summer during the first week back in August.

You may follow the news in whatever way works for you, but we recommend one (or more) of the following:

- **Read the paper.** Please be sure it is a credible source. We recommend the New York Times <https://www.nytimes.com/> or the Washington Post <https://www.washingtonpost.com>. You should have free, unlimited access to the NY Times as a student at Oceana. Please let us know if you are unable to access it for free.

- **Listen to podcasts.** There are short, daily podcasts that cover much of what is going on. They are free and you can listen to them on a smartphone or a computer. We recommend the following:
UpFirst (NPR) <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/510318/up-first> and/or
The Daily (NY Times) <https://www.nytimes.com/column/the-daily>

There are also many political podcasts that are quite good. If you are interested, and have some time over the summer, we recommend any of the following:

- [More Perfect](#) (from the makers of RadioLab)
- [The Argument](#)
- [The New Yorker: Politics and More](#)
- [Reveal](#)
- [Throughline](#)
- [The NPR Politics podcast](#)
- [Amicus \(with Dahlia Lithwick\)](#)
- [CalMatters](#)