



A Correlation  
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Roots and  
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2020  
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to the Advanced Placement  
U.S. Government and Politics  
Course and Exam Description  
Effective Fall 2020

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## Correlation Guide for AP Government and Politics: United States for *American Government: Roots and Reform, 14e, AP Edition*

This chart correlates the College Board’s Advanced Placement Enduring Understandings, which are aligned to the “Big Idea” themes in the course, to the corresponding chapters and pages in *American Government: Roots and Reform, 14e, AP Edition*.

### Big Ideas in U.S. Government and Politics

**Constitutionalism (CON)** The U.S. Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances among branches of government and allocates power between federal and state governments. This system is based on the rule of law and the balance between majority rules with minority rights.

**Liberty and Order (LOR)** Governmental laws and policies balancing order and liberty are based on the U.S. Constitution and have been interpreted differently over time.

**Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy (PRD)** Popular sovereignty, individualism, and republicanism are important considerations of U.S. laws and policy making and assume citizens will engage and participate.

**Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)** Multiple actors and institutions interact to produce and implement possible policies.

**Methods of Political Analysis (MPA)** Using various types of analyses, political scientists measure how U.S. political behavior, attitudes, ideologies, and institutions are shaped by a number of factors over time.

<b>Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy</b>			
More than 200 years after the U.S. Constitution was ratified, the compromises that were necessary for ratification—which in some instances led to ambiguity—continue to fuel debate and discussion over how best to protect liberty, equality, order, and private property. This first unit sets the foundation for the course by examining how the framers of the Constitution set up a structure of government intended to stand the test of time. Compromises were made during the Constitutional Convention and ratification debates, and these compromises focused on the proper balance between individual freedom, social order, and equality of opportunity. In subsequent units, students will apply their understanding of the Constitution to the institutions of government and people’s daily lives.			
Enduring Understanding	Big Idea	Topic	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15, 16
<b>CON-1</b> The Constitution emerged from the debate about the weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation as a blueprint for limited government.	Constitutionalism (CON)	1.3 1.4 1.5	pp. 24; 28-34; Appendix III pp. 25-27 pp. 29-32; 40-43; 396-398; 415-417
<b>CON-2</b> Federalism reflects the dynamic distribution of power between national and state governments.	Constitutionalism (CON)	1.7 1.8 1.9	pp. 32; 48-54; 61-64 pp. 53-61; 65; 71-73; 103 pp. 32-34; 49-53; 61-65; 392-402
<b>LOR-1</b> A balance between governmental power and individual rights has been a hallmark of American political development.	Liberty and Order (LOR)	1.1 1.2	pp. 24; 28-34; Appendix I; Appendix II pp. 6; 38; 48; 362-363; Appendix III
<b>PMI-1</b> The Constitution created a competitive policy-making process to ensure the people’s will is represented and that freedom is preserved.	Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)	1.6	pp. 32-36; 158; 170; 215; Appendix III

**Unit 2: Interactions Among Branches of Government**

The Constitution grants specific powers to Congress, the presidency, and the courts, each of which exercises informal powers (developed through political practice, tradition, and legislation). Because power is widely distributed, and checks prevent one branch from overreaching or usurping powers from the others, institutional actors are in the position where they must both compete and cooperate in order to govern.

<b>Enduring Understanding</b>	<b>Big Idea</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16</b>
<b>CON-3</b> The republican ideal in the U.S. is manifested in the structure and operation of the legislative branch.	Constitutionalism (CON)	2.1 2.2 2.3	pp. 135-138; 151-158 pp. 135-138; 145-158; 160; 386-392 pp. 138-145; 158-163
<b>CON-4</b> The presidency has been enhanced beyond its expressed constitutional powers.	Constitutionalism (CON)	2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7	pp. 154; 171-176; 182-188; 408-435 pp. 155-158; 169-171; 179-182; 424-431 pp. 161-162; 176-179 pp. 176-179; 182-185
<b>CON-5</b> The design of the judicial branch protects the Supreme Court's independence as a branch of government, and the emergence and use of judicial review remains a powerful judicial practice.	Constitutionalism (CON)	2.8 2.9 2.10 2.11	pp. 214-222; Appendix III pp. 222-237 pp. 228-240 pp. 237-239
<b>PMI-2</b> The federal bureaucracy implements federal policies.	Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)	2.12 2.13 2.14 2.15	pp. 191-200; 203-207 pp. 203-207; 308-310; 345-347 pp. 156-158; 179-182; 207-211; 420-423 pp. 156-158; 179-182; 207-211

**Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights**

The U.S. Constitution, primarily through the Bill of Rights and the Fourteenth Amendment, protects the civil liberties and civil rights of citizens, though the extent of those protections and the need to protect the safety and general welfare of individuals has long been debated. Through social movements, legal challenges, and acts of Congress, citizens have attempted to restrict the government from unduly infringing on individual rights and from denying equal protection under the law.

<b>Enduring Understanding</b>	<b>Big Idea</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapters 2, 4, 5, 13</b>
<b>CON-6</b> The Court's interpretation of the U.S. Constitution is influenced by the composition of the Court and citizen-state interactions. At times, it has restricted minority rights and, at others, protected them.	Constitutionalism (CON)	3.12 3.13	pp. 103-116 pp. 129-131
<b>LOR-2</b> Provisions of the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights are continually being interpreted to balance the power of government and the civil liberties of individuals.	Liberty and Order (LOR)	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6	pp. 40; 69-73 pp. 73-77 pp. 77-82 pp. 77-81; 345-347 pp. 82-83 pp. 82-85; 87-90
<b>LOR-3</b> Protections of the Bill of Rights have been selectively incorporated by way of the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause to prevent state infringement of basic liberties.	Liberty and Order (LOR)	3.7 3.8 3.9	pp. 71-73; 83 pp. 84-90 pp. 90-94
<b>PRD-1</b> The Fourteenth Amendment's equal protection clause as well as other constitutional provisions have often been used to support the advancement of equality.	Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy (PRD)	3.10	pp. 69; 93-94; 103-131
<b>PMI-3</b> Public policy promoting civil rights is influenced by citizen-state interactions and constitutional interpretation over time.	Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)	3.11	pp. 112-113; 116; 118-120; 317

<b>Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs</b>			
American political beliefs are shaped by founding ideals, core values, linkage institutions (e.g., elections, political parties, interest groups, and the media in all its forms), and the changing demographics of citizens. These beliefs about government, politics, and the individual's role in the political system influence the creation of public policies.			
<b>Enduring Understanding</b>	<b>Big Idea</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapters 1, 10, 11, 13, 15</b>
<b>PMI-4</b> Widely held political ideologies shape policy debates and choices in American policies.	Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)	4.7 4.8 4.9 4.10	pp. 251-254; 265-266 pp. 258-259; 314-320; 386-403 pp. 251-254; 386-392; 426-428 pp. 251-254; 392-403
<b>MPA-1</b> Citizen beliefs about government are shaped by the intersection of demographics, political culture, and dynamic social change.	Method of Political Analysis (MPA)	4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4	pp. 8-16; 251-254 pp. 254-258; 347-352 pp. 254-258 pp. 254-258
<b>MPA-2</b> Public opinion is measured through scientific polling, and the results of public opinion polls influence public policies and institutions.	Method of Political Analysis (MPA)	4.5 4.6	pp. 243-251 pp. 250-251; 258-259
<b>Unit 5: Political Participation</b>			
Under our constitution, governing is achieved directly through citizen participation, although there are institutions (e.g., political parties, interest groups, and mass media) that inform, organize, and mobilize support to influence government and politics, resulting in many venues for citizen influence on policy making.			
<b>Enduring Understanding</b>	<b>Big Idea</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapters 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14</b>
<b>PRD-2</b> The impact of federal policies on campaigning and electoral rules continues to be contested by both sides of the political spectrum.	Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy (PRD)	5.8 5.9 5.10 5.11	pp. 294-297; 302-308; 321-322 pp. 138-145; 291-293; 297-300 pp. 300-308 pp. 308-314
<b>PRD-3</b> The various forms of media provide citizens with political information and influence the ways in which they participate politically.	Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy (PRD)	5.12 5.13	pp. 305-308; 330-344 pp. 305-308; 340-345; 347-352
<b>PMI-5</b> Political parties, interest groups, and social movements provide opportunities for participation and influence how people relate to government and policy-makers.	Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)	5.3 5.4 5.5 5.6 5.7	pp. 142-148; 158-159; 271-276 pp. 263-276; 308-314 pp. 281-283 pp. 204-205; 355-376 pp. 204-207; 265-267; 358-375; 386-390
<b>MPA-3</b> Factors associated with political ideology, efficacy, structural barriers, and demographics influence the nature and degree of political participation.	Method of Political Analysis (MPA)	5.1 5.2	pp. 40; 106; 109-110; 314-320 pp. 291-308; 314-325

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