

## **AP US Government: Summer Assignment**

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**Text:** American Government: Roots and Reform, 2011 Edition; O’connor, Yanus, Sabato

### **Course Description**

The AP Government & Politics: United States course provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. (Taken from [www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub\\_usgov.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_usgov.html))

### **Course Rationale**

AP Government and Politics provides students with a true college atmosphere in content, pacing, and instruction. It will challenge students’ ability to think and analyze material critically, and give them the opportunity to earn college credit by their performance on the AP Exam in May of 2017. The goal of a Kettering student is not to get to college; the goal is to succeed in college. This course helps achieve that goal by preparing students with the skills necessary to succeed in a college atmosphere. Since the course is only one semester in length, students are required to complete the following summer assignment in order to get a head-start on the class. The following is due the first day of school:

1. Chapters 1 & 2 are fully read.
2. Students should be prepared to demonstrate knowledge about each of the major themes in each subsection of each chapter. These themes are identified on pg. 3 and on pg. 29.
3. Although students are not required to outline the two chapters, it may be beneficial if students outline the major themes within each chapter. **There will be a test over the first two chapters the first week of school.**
4. Complete the “Test Yourself” portion (multiple choice only) at the end of chapters 1 and 2.

